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The Scottish Text Society

The Maitland Quarto Manuscript

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The Maitland Quarto Manuscript

Containing Poems by

SIR RICHARD MAITLAND,
ARBUTHNOT,
AND OTHERS

EDITED BY

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PREFACE.

THE manuscript here printed is preserved, along with its elder companion the Maitland Folio, in the Pepysian Library at Cambridge. The description of it given by Pinkerton[1] is as follows:—

The Quarto Maitland MS. consists of 138 leaves; the pages not being marked, but the folios. It is written by Miss Mary Maitland, third daughter of Sir Richard. This appears from her name being inscribed twice on the page where the title ought to have stood; once in Italian capitals *MARIE MAITLAND*, 1586; and again in Roman letter Marie Maitland, 1586; as also from a poem by her (see No. 84[2]), in which the length of her toil in transcribing this MS. is mentioned. It is exquisitely written in a great variety of the finest hands, and most of it as legible as the largest print; and were in perfect order, had not the foolish bookbinder damped it in binding, so that each page has given a faint impression on the other, which very much hurts the beauty of the MS. It is bound and ornamented like the Folio; as, indeed, are all Mr Pepys's books and manuscripts.

The grounds on which Pinkerton attributed the writing of the volume to Mary Maitland are plainly insufficient, and it is more probable that it was written for her by

[1] *Ancient Scottish Poems* (1786), vol. ii. p. 467.

[2] No. 86 in this edition.

some expert penman, whose work well deserves the praise given to it. Though Pinkerton speaks of "a great variety of the finest hands," the bulk of the manuscript is written in one or other of two styles—viz., a small but clear form of the old Scottish hand, and a large Italic lettering resembling print. Towards the end (from folio 129) there is greater variety, and more use of ornamental designs, but the whole appears to be by the same hand. The Scottish hand is commonly used for Sir Richard Maitland's own poems and for other pieces of a similar nature, while the Italian hand is employed for pieces of a lighter or more modern character. The size of the pages is small (7⅝ by 5¾ inches), and the amount of text on each varies greatly according to the length of the lines and the style of writing employed.

In this edition, in which the full contents of the manuscript are printed for the first time, the original has been followed page for page, and the different styles of handwriting have been indicated by the use of different types. Those pieces which are written in the Scottish hand are printed in ordinary roman type, with the contractions expanded in italics; those in the Italian hand are closely reproduced in italic lettering, with the few contractions retained. An endeavour has also been made to reproduce the more ornamental hands, the capital letters, and scribal flourishes, and in general to convey as distinct an idea of the appearance of the original as could readily be done in print. With a very few exceptions the occasional errors of the scribe have not been corrected in the text, but are pointed out in the notes at the end of the volume.

The contents of the Quarto MS., like those of the Folio, consist partly of a collection of Sir Richard Maitland's poems, and partly of a number of pieces by other writers. Of the former only three are not found in the Folio; of the latter all but ten are new. As in the Folio (in its original form), a number of Maitland's poems are placed foremost, and form an unbroken series up to No. XXXIV., while a second series extends from No. L. to LIX. It is possible that this separation is due to some accidental cause, as the catch-words show an irregularity in the quires at the end of the first and the beginning of the second series. The manuscript also closes with a series (Nos. XC. to XCV.) relating to the death of Sir Richard. The miscellaneous character of the other pieces, most of which are anonymous, may be seen from the table of contents.

Those pieces which the Quarto has in common with the Folio were doubtless copied from the latter (in spite of occasional variations in the text), but the arrangement is altogether different. In the Folio there are three portions which consist mainly of Maitland's own poems—viz., Nos. XIV. to XXXI., XCIV. to CXIII., and CLXX. to CLXXXII. In the Quarto all these pieces are found, except CLXXI. and CLXXVI, but the scribe repeatedly passes from one portion to the other in a manner which seems to rest on no definite principle. It is noteworthy that outside of these sections nothing has been taken from the Folio except No. LXXXVIII. (=XLIII. of the Quarto), all the remaining contents being new material.

In respect of these common pieces, the interest of the Quarto text largely consists in the changes in form which

the scribe has introduced. The orthography is much more regular, and altogether of a later type than that of the Folio; though still Scottish in character, it shows clear traces of the growing influence of English forms. On this account the two manuscripts present interesting material for the study of the old literary Scottish tongue in its later stages, while many of the special contents of the Quarto have a similar value for the history of Scottish poetry.

To the Master and Fellows of Magdalene College the thanks of the Society are due for their kind permission to complete in this manner the printing of the full contents of these two famous manuscripts. The text of the Quarto has been partly transcribed, and partly printed direct, from rotographs made by Mr Dunn of the University Library, Cambridge, and in the reading of the proofs I have received valuable assistance from Mr George Watson, Oxford.

W. A. CRAIGIE.

OXFORD, *April* 1920.

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MARIE MCAITLCAND.

1586.

Marie Maitland . 1586.

Ane Sonet to the Authour In cõmendatioun of his buik.

Zour prediceſsouris prayſe & prowes hie
Thair hardie hairtis hawtie heroicall
Of dew deſert deſeruis neuer to die
Bot to be pennit & placit as principall
& metest mirrour of manheid martiall
Vnto thair lyne & linage to give licht
Of Quhome ye come Quhoſe offſpring zow to call
Ze merit weill reſsembling thame so richt
Thocht thay wer manfull men of mekill micht
Thair douchtie deidis in zow hes not decayit
Ze Wittie wyse & valzeant warriour wicht
Hes With the pen the Poetis pairt weill playit
Quhairby zour lordschip enlairgit hes thair fame
& to zour self maid ane Immortall name.

II.] 1

Sum wyfes of the borrouſtoŭn
sa wonder vaine ar and wantoŭn
In warlde thay wait not quhat to weir
On claythis thay wair monye a croŭn
all for newfa*n*gilnes of geir.

Thair bodyis bravelie thay attyire
of carnell luſt to eik the fyire
I fairlie quhy thay haue no feir
to gar men deime quhat thay deſyire
And all for newfangilnes of geir.

Thair goŭnis ar coiſtlie and trimlie traillis
barrit with Veluouſs ſleif nek and taillis
and thair foirſkirt of ſilkis ſeir,
off fynest camreche thair fuk ſaillis
and all for newfangilnes of geir.

And of fyne ſilk thair furrit cloikkis
with hingand ſlevis lyik geill poikkis
na preiching will gar thame foirbeir
To weir all thing that ſinne provoikis
And all for newfangilnes of geir.

Thair Wylie coittis man weill be hewit
broudrit richt braid with pasmentis ſewit
I trow quha wald the maner ſpeir
that thair gudmen had caus to rewit
that eũer thair wyfis wair sic geir.

Thair Wovin hoiſs of ſilk ar ſchawin
Burrit aboũe with tafteis drawin
With gartennis of ane new maneir
To gar thair courtlines be knawin
And all for newfangilnes of geir.

Sumtyme thay will beir vp their goũn
to ſchaw thair wylicot hingand doũn,
And ſumtyme bayth thay will vp beir
to ſchaw thair hoiſs of blak or broũn
And all for newfangilnes off geir —

Thair Collarris carcattis and hals beiddis
With veluot hattis heicht on thair heidis
Coirdit with gold lyik ane ȝounkeir
Broudrit about with goldin threiddis
And all for newfangilnes of geir.

Thair ſchone of velwot and thair mŭillis
In kirk ar not content with ſtŭillis
the ſermon quhen thay sit to heir
bot caryis cuſchingis lyik vaine fŭillis
And all for newfangilnes of geir.

I mein of thame thair honour dreidis
quhy ſould thay not haue honeist weidis
to thair eſtait doand effeir
I mein of thame thair ſtait exceidis
And all for newfangilnes of geir.

For ſumtyme wyffis sa grave hes bein
Lyik giglettis cled wald not be sein
off burgeſs wyffis thocht I speik heir
Think weill of all women I mein
On vaniteis that waistis geir.

Thay ſay wyffis ar ſa delicat
In feding feiſting and bancat
Can not content thame with ſic cheir
as weill may suffice thair eſtait
For newfangilnes of cheir and geir.

And ſum will ſpend mair I heir ſay
In ſpyice and droggis on ane day

Nor wald thair motheris in ane ȝeir
quhilk will gar monye pak decay
quhen thay ſa vainlie waiſt thair geir —

Thairfoir ȝoŭng wyffis speciallie
of all sic faultis hauld ȝow frie
and moderatlie to leif now leir
In meit and clayth accordinglie
and not ſa vainlie waiſt ȝour geir.

Vse not to ſkiſt athort the gait
nor na mŭmſchancis air nor lait
be na dainſer for this daingeir
Of ȝow be taine ane ill conſait
that ȝe ar habill to waiſt geir.

Hant ay in honeſt companie
and all ſuſpitious placis flie
Lat neuer harlot cŭm ȝow neir
that wald ȝow leid to leicherie
In houp to get thairfoir ſum geir.

My counſell I geve generallie
to all wemen quhat euer thay be
this leſſoun for to qŭin perqueir
Syne keipit weill co*n*tinuallie
Better nor onye warldlie geir —

Leif burgeſs men or all be loiſt
on 3our wyffis to mak ſic coſt
Quhilk may gar all 3our bairnis bleir
ſcho that may not wante wyne and roiſt
Is abill for to waiſt ſum geir —

Betwene thame and nobillis of blŭid
na difference bot ane veluouſs hŭid
Thair camreche courches ar als deir
thair other claythis ar als gud
and als coiſtlie in other geir —

Bot wald greit ladyis tak gud heid
to thair hono*ur* and find remeid
and thoill na burgeſs wyfe to weir
Lyik lordis wyffis in ladyis weid
as dames of hono*ur* other geir

I ſpeik for na diſpyit trewlie
my ſelf am not of faultis frie
bot that 3e ſould not perſeueir
Into ſic foliſche vanitie
For na newfangilnes of geir

Off burgeſs wyffis thocht I speik plaine
Sum landwart ladyis ar als vaine

3 b [III.

as be thair clething may appeir
werand gayer nor thame may gaine
on o*ur* vaine claythis vaiſtand geir.

*finis q*ꝑ *Richart Maitland of*
*lethingtoun kny*ᵗ.

Of Liddiſdaill the co*m*moũn theiffis
ſa pertlie ſteillis now and reiffis
that nane may keip
hors nolt nor ſcheip
nor ȝit dar ſleip for thair mischeiffis

Thay plainlie throw the countrie rydis
I trow the mekill devil thame gydis
quhair thay onſet
ay in thair gait
thair is na ȝet nor dure thame bydis

Thay leif richt nocht q*uhair* euer thay ga
thair can na thing be hid thame fra
for gif men wald thair houſſ hauld
then waxe thay bald
to burne and ſla —

III.] 4

Thay haue neir hand hereit haill
Ettrik forreſt and Lawderdaill
now ar thay gaine
In Lowthiane
and ſpairis nane that thay will waill.

Thay landis ar with ſtouth ſa ſocht
To extreme povertie ar brocht
Thay wicked ſchrowis
hes laid the plowis
That nane or few is that ar left ocht.

Bot co*mm*oun taking of blak maill
thay that had fleſche & breid & aill
now ar ſa wraikit
maid pŭir and nakit
Faine to be ſtaikit with walter caill

Thay thefis that ſteillis and turſis hame
ilk ane of thame hes ane to name
Will of the lawis
Hab of the ſchawis
To mak bair wais thay think na ſchame.

Thay ſpŭilȝie pŭire men of thair pakis
thay leif thame nocht on bed nor bakis
bayth hen and cok
with reill and rok
The lairdis Iok / all with him takis.

Thay leif not ſpindill, ſpone nor ſpeit
bed, boſter, blanket, ſark nor ſcheit
Ihone of the park
rypis kiſt and ark
For all ſic wark he is richt meit.

He is weill kend Ihone of the ſyide
a gretar theif did neuer ryide
he neuer tyris
for to brek byris
oŭr mŭire and myris o*u*r gud ane gyide.

Thair is ane Callit Clem*e*ntis hob
Fra ilk pŭire wyfe reiffis *ȝair* wob
and all the laif
Quhat euer thay haif
The deuill reſſaif / thairfoir his gob.

To ſie ſa greit ſtouth quha wald trowit
bot gif ſum greit man it allowit

Richt ſair I rew
thocht it be trew
thair is ſa few that dar avowit.

Of ſũm greit men thay haue sic gait
that redye ar thame to debait
and will vp weir
thair ſtollin geir
that nane dar ſteir, thame air nor lait.

Quhat cauſis theiffis ws our gang
bot want of Iuſtice ws amang
nane takis cair
thocht all forfair
na man will ſpair, now to doe wrang.

Of ſtouth thocht now thay cũm gud ſpeid
that nather of men nor god hes dreid
ȝit or I die
ſum ſall thame ſie
hing on a trie, quhill thay be deid.

finis ꝙ S. R. M. of
lethingtoun knicht.

5 b [IV.

O hie Eternall god of micht
of thy greit grace grant ws thy licht
With hairt and mynde ſinceir
To leif efter thy lawis richt
now in this new ȝeir —

God keip oŭr Quene and grace hir ſend
this realme to gyde and defend
In Iustice perseueir
and of thir weiris mak ane end
now Into this new ȝeir.

God ſend grace to o*ur* Quene Regent
Be law to mak ſic pŭniſchment
To gar limmeris forbeir
for till oppres the Innocent
now Into this new ȝeir —

Lord ſchent all ſaweris of ſeditioŭn
remove all ranco*ur* and ſuſpitioun
quhilk may this countrie deir
Put all perturbers to punitioŭn
now into this new ȝeir —

IV.] 6

God ſend pasto*uris* of veritie
By quhome we may Instructit be
our god to ſerue and feir
and to ſet furth his worde trewlie
now into this new ȝeir.

And tak away thir Ignorantis
of kirk men that vycis hantis
and leidis ws arreir
That bayth gud lyfe and cu*n*ning wantis
now Into this new ȝeir.

God give o*ur* lordis temporall
grace to geif ane trew counſell
this realme to guyde and ſteir
To be obedient and loyall
now Into this new ȝeir.

And tak away all greit oppresso*uris*
co*mm*oŭn mantenaris of transgresso*uris*
moveris of ſtryfe and weir
For theiffis and reveris Intercesso*uris*
now Into this new ȝeir.

Lordis of ȝe sait mak expeditioŭn
gar euerilk man mak restitutioŭn
of wrangous land and geir
And we ſall eik ȝo*ur* co*n*tributioun
Now Into this new ȝeir.

Men of Law I pray ȝow mend
Tak na eŭill querrellis be the end
For proffeit may appeir
Invent na thing to gar ws spend
Our geir in this new ȝeir.

God graunt o*ur* ladyis chaſtetie
Wisdome meiknes and graŭitie
And haue na will to weir
Thair clething full of vanitie
now Into this new ȝeir.

Bot for to weir habulȝeme*n*t
according to their ſtait and rent
and all thingis forbeir
that may thair bairnis gar repent
now into this new ȝeir.

And ſend

IV.] 7

And ſend o*ur* burgeſſ wit and ſceill
For to ſet furth the co*mm*oŭn weill
with lawtie ſell thair geir
And to vse meit and meſo*ur* leill
now Into this new ȝeir.

And all vaine waiſto*urs* tak away
Regrateris that takis dowbill pay
and wyne ſelleris o*ur* deir
dyuouris that drinkis all the day
now Into this new ȝeir.

Grace be to the gud burgeſs wyffis
that be leſum laboŭr thryvis
and dois vertew leir
Thriftie and of honeſt lyvis
Now into this new ȝeir.

For ſum of thame wald be weill fed
and lyik the Quenis ladyis cled
Thocht all thair bairnis ſould bleir
I trow that ſa ſall mak ane red
of all thair pakis this ȝeir —

7 b [IV

God send the co*m*mounis will to wirk
The ground to labo*ur* and not to irk
To win gud quheit and beir
And to bring furth baith ſtaig and ſtirk
now into this new ȝeir —

And tak away thir ydill loŭnis
Crame craikeris w*ith* cloutit goŭnis
and ſoirnaris that ar ſweir
and put thame in the gailȝeoŭnis
Now into this new ȝeir.

I pray all ſtaitis and degrie
To pray to god co*n*tinuallie
His grace to graunt ws heir
And ſend ws peace & vnitie
Now Into this new ȝeir.

S. R. M. of lethingtoun.

Quhair is the blythnes that hes beine
Baith in Burgh and landwart sene
Amang lordis and ladyis schene
Daunsing, singing, game and play
Bot now I wait not quhat thay meine
All merines is worne albay.

For now I heir na worde of zuile
In kirk on talsay nor in stuile
Lordis lattis thair kitchingis tuill
And drallis thaine to the abbay
And scant hes ane to keyp thair muile
All houshaulderis is worne albay.

I saw na gysaris all this zeir
Bot kirkmen eled lyik men of weir
That neuer tumis in the queir
Lyik ruffiaris is thair array
To preithe and teithe that will not leir
The kirk gudis thay wayst away.

Kirkmen afoir wer gud of lyfe
Preithit, teithit, and stainthit stuyfe
Thay feirit nather sworde nor knyfe

MAITLAND QUARTO MS., fol. 8 a.

To face p. 15.

v.] 8

Quhair is the blyithnes that hes beine
Baith in Burgh and landwart ſene
Amang lordis and ladyis ſchene
daŭnsing, singing / game and play
Bot now I wait not quhat thay meine
all merines is worne away.

For now I heir na worde of ȝŭile
In kirk on calſay nor in ſcŭile
Lordis lattis thair kitchingis cŭill
and drawis thame to the abbay
and ſcant hes ane to keip thair mŭile
All houſhaulderis is worne away.

I ſaw na gyſaris all this ȝeir
Bot kirkmen cled lyik men of weir
That neuer cu*m*mis in the queir
Lyik ruffiaris is thair array
To preiche and teiche that will not leir
The kirk gudis thay waiſt away.

Kirkmen afoir wer gud of lyfe
Preichit, teichit / and ſtainchit ſtryfe
They feirit nather ſworde nor knyfe

8 b [v.

For love of god the ſuith to ſay
All honourit thame bayt*h* barne and wyff
Deuotioun wes not away.

Our fatheris wyſe wes and diſcreit
Thay had bayth hono*ur* men and meit
With lŭiff thay did thair ten*n*entis treit
and had aneuche In poise to lay
Thay wantit nather malt nor quheit
And mirrines wes not away.

And we had nather ȝŭill nor pace
Bot ſeikis our meit from place to place
and we haue nather luck nor grace
We gar our landis doubill pay
Our tenne*n*tis cryis alace alace
That reuthe and pitie is away.

Now we haue mair It is weill kend
nor o*ur* foirbearis had to ſpend
bot far leſs at the ȝeiris end
and neuer hes ane mirrie day
God will na ritches to us ſend
So lang as hono*ur* is away

We waiſt far mair now lyik vaine fŭillis
We and our page to turſe o*ur* mŭillis
Nor thay did than that had greit ȝŭillis
Of meit and drink ſayid neuer nay
They had lang formis q*uhai*r we have ſtŭillis
And mirrines wes not away.

Of o*ur* wanthrift ſum wytis playis
And ſum thair wantoun vaine arrayis
Sum the wyte on thair wyffis layis
That in the court wald gang ſa gay
and cairis not quha the m*er*chand payis
quhill pairt of land be put away

The kirkmen keipis na profeſſioun
the temporall men co*mm*ittis oppreſſioun
puttand the pŭire from *ȝair* poſſeſſioŭn
Na kynd of feir of god haue thay
Thay cu*mm*er bayth the kirk and ſeſſioun
And chaſis Cheritie away.

Quhen ane of thame ſuſtenis wrang
We crye for Iustice heid and hang
Bot quhen o*ur* nichtbo*ur* we o*ur* gang
We labo*ur* Iustice to delay

9 b [v.

Affectioun blindis ws ſo lang
all eqŭitie is put away

To mak actis we haue ſum feill
god wait gif that we keip thame weill
We cŭm to bar with Iak and ſteill
As we wald boiſt the Iudge and fray
Of ſic Iustice I haue na ſceill
Quhair reull and ordo*ur* is away.

Our lawis ar lichtleit for abuſioun
ſumtyme is cloikit with colluſioun
Quhilk cauſis of bluid the greit effuſioun
for na man ſpairis now to ſlay
quhat bringis countreis to confuſioun
Bot q*uhair* that Iuſtice is away

Quha is the wyite quha can ſchaw ws
quhat bot o*ur* nobillis that ſould knaw ws
and till hono*rabi*ll deidis draw ws
Let neuer co*m*moun weill decay
Or ellis ſum mischeif will fa ws
and nobilnes we put away.

Put o*ur* awin lawis to executioŭn
vpon transgreſſo*uris* mak pŭnitioun

VI.

To cruell folk ſeik na remiſſioun
for peace and Iuſtice lat ws pray
In dreid ſum ſtrainge new Institutioŭn
Cŭm and our cuſtome put away.

Amend ȝour lyffis ane and all
and be war of ane ſuddaine fall
And pray to god that maid ws all
To ſend ws Ioy that lestis ay
And lat ws not to ſinne be thrall
bot put all vyice and wrang away.

S. R. M.

The greit blyithnes and Ioy Ineſtimabill
for to ſet furth we Scottis ar not abill
Nor for to mak conding ſolemnitie
for the gud newis and tydingis confortabill
of the contract of mariage honorabill
Betuixt the Quenis maiſt nobill maieſtitie
And the greteſt ȝoung prince in Christintie
And allya to ws maiſt profitabill
Of france the dolphin firſt ſone of king henrie

All luſtie Wowaris & hardie Cheualeiris
Go dreſs 3o*ur* horſs 3o*ur* harneis and 3our geiris
To rin at liſtis to Iuſt and to tornay
that it may cum vnto 3our luiffis eiris
quha in ye feild maiſt valiantlie him beris
And 3e fair ladyis put on 3o*ur* beſt array
Requeiſt 3oung men to ryide in 3o*ur* leueray
that for 3our faik thay may brek twentie ſperis
for luif of 3ow 3oung luſtie ladyis gay.

All borrowis tounis euerilk man 3ow prayis
To mak baine fyris fercis & clerk playis
and throw 3our rewis carrous daunce & ſing
and at 3o*ur* croce gar wyne rin ſindrie wayis
as wes the cuſtome in o*ur* elderis dayis
Quhen that ye mad Triumphe for ony thing
And all 3our ſtairis w*ith* Tapeſtrie gar hing
Caſtellis ſchut gu*n*nis ſchippis & galeyis
Blaw vp 3our tru*m*pettis and on 3o*ur* dru*m*mis ding.

Preiſtis and Clerkis and men of religioun
With deuot mynd gang in profeſſioun
and in 3o*ur* queiris ſing with melodie
To the greit god mak Interceſſioun
To ſend our Princes gud ſucceſsioun.

With hir ȝoŭng ſpous to o*ur* vtilitie
that efter hir may gouerne this countrie
And ws defend from all oppreſſioun
And it conſ*er*ue in law and libertie.

Ȝe lordis all and barrounis of renoŭn
and all eſtaitis of this natioun
mak greit triu*m*phe mak banket and gud cheir
and euerilk man put on his nŭptiall goŭn
Lat it be ſene into this borrowſtoun
that in ȝo*ur* cofferris hes lyne ȳis mony ȝeir
ſen that ȝo*ur* Quene hes choſin hir ane feir
Ane potent prince for to ma*n*tein ȝo*ur* croŭn
and Interteney ȝow in peace and weir

Lat all the warld ȝo*ur* proceding ſie
that thair is fayth and treuth in ȝo*ur* countrie
Lŭif lawtie law and gud conſcience
Concord co*n*currand in peace and vnitie
Obedience to the authoritie
Foirsicht proviſioun and experience
Hono*ur* manheid Iuſtice and prudence
Quhilk gif ȝe haue ȝe ſall eſtimit be
and be ilk man hauldin in reuerence —

O michtie prince and ſpous to o*ur* Maiſtres
Reſſaue this realme in loue & hairtlines
Set furth o*ur* lawis mantein o*ur* libertie
do equale Iuſtice bayth to mair and les
Reward vertew and p̆uniſche wickitnes
Mak ws to leif In gud tranquillitie
defend o*ur* co*m*mounis treit o*ur* nobilitie
And be thy mein o*ur* co*m*moun weill Incres
That we tak pleso*ur* to mak policie.

Scottis and frenche now leif in vnitie
as ȝe war brether borne in ane countrie
without all maner of ſuſpitioŭn
Ilk ane to other keip trew fraternitie
defend ane other bayt*h* be land and ſie
and gif onye of euill conditioun
betuixt ȝow twa wald mak ſeditioun
Scottis or frenche quhat ma*n* that euer he be
With all rigour put him to punitioun.

O noble princes and mother to o*ur* Quene
With all thy hairt to god lift vp thy Eine
And geve him thankis for grace he hes the ſend
that he hes maid the Inſtrume*n*t and mein
with mariage to couple in ane chein
Thir twa realmes ather to defend

Think weill warit the tyme thow hes done ſpend
and the travell that thow hes done ſuſtein
Sen It is brocht now to ſa gud ane end.

S. R. M.

Ane Ballat maid at thew ȝeirismeſs In the ȝeir of god 1559 *ȝeiris.*

Eternall god tak away thy ſcurge
from ws Scottis for thy greit mercie
Send ws thy help this land to clenge and purge
of discord and Inanimitie
Betuixt the leigis and auctoritie
that we may leif in peax withouttin weir
In lawtie, law, in luif and libertie
With merines into this new ȝeir.

Almichtie god ſend ws ſupport and grace
of maȝnis help we ar all dispairit
To mak concord that had ſic tyme and ſpace
And nane as ȝit hes thair labour warit
as na man war that for ȳis countrie carit
bot and ȳis ſtryf and troubill perſeueir
he ſalbe ſage ȳat ſall eſchape vnſarit
and not thoill paine into this new ȝeir.

Think ȝe not ſchame that ar Scottis borne
Lordis barounis of auct*oritie*
That throw ȝo*ur* ſleuth this realme ſould be forlorne
ȝo*ur* ground diſtroyit and ȝo*ur* policie
Sic wraik ſall cum vpon ȝow haiſtallie
That ȝe ſall ſay alace we wer o*ur* ſweir
quhill we had tyme that maid na vnitie
Amend it ȝit now Into this new ȝeir.

Trow ȝe to ly lurk and doe na mair
To ſie q*uhi*lk ſyid ſall haue ye victorie
The quhilk at laſt ſall not help ȝow ane hair
Ryiſe vp concur and thame certifie
quhilk with reſſoun will not rewlit be
ȝe will with force withoutin fraud or feir
mak weir on thame as co*mm*oun Enemie
And thame correct now Into this new ȝeir.

God grant his grace to the Inferio*uris*
of this puir realme thair querrell to conſidder
and till obey to their ſuperio*uris*
ſo that o*ur* heid and leigis do confidder
In peace and luif for to remaine togidder
Syne we wer quyte of all thir me*n* of weir
That all trew folk from berwik to baquhidder
May leif in reſt vnreſt in this new ȝeir.

The Quenis g/ gif scho hes offendit
In hir office lat it reformit be
and ȝe leigis let ȝo*ur* faill be mendit
and with trew hairt ß*e*rue ꝯe auct*oriti*e
And ȝe kirkmen doe ȝo*ur* dewtie
and all eſtaitis ſyne & vyce forbeir
The quhilk to doe I pray the trinitie
To ȝow ſend grace now into ꝯis new ȝeir.

God mak ws quyte of all hereſie
and put ws anis into the Richt way
and In thy law we ſa Inſtructit be
that we be not begylit euerie day
Ane ſayis this ane other ſayis nay
that we wait not quho*m*to we ſould adheir
Chriſt ſend to ws ane reŭll to keip for ay
Without diſcord now Into this new ȝeir

God ſend Iuſtice this land to reull and gŭyde
and put away thift reif and oppreſſioun
That all trew folk may ſŭirlie gang & ryide
Without diſcord had p*ar*liame*n*t and ſeſſioun
To gar trew folk brŭik ꝯ*air* Iuſt poſſeſſioun
And geve ws grace gud lord quhill we ar heir
To ceiß from ſyn repentand o*ur* tranſgreſſioun
And leif in Ioy now Into this new ȝeir.

S. R. M.

In this new ȝeir I ſie bot weir
na caus to ſing
In this new ȝeir I ſie bot weir
na caus thair is to ſing.

I can not ſing for ȳe Vexatioŭn
of frenchemen and the congregatioun
that hes maid trowbill in this natioun
And monye bair biging

In this new ȝeir I ſie bot weir na caus &c.
In this new ȝeir. &c.

I haue na will to ſing or danſs
for feir of England and of france
God ſend thame ſorrow and miſchance
Is caus of thair cumming
In this new ȝeir. &c.

We ar ſa rewlit ritche and pŭire
that we wait not quhair to be ſŭire
The bourdour as the borrowmŭire
quhair ſum perchance will hing
In ȳis new ȝeir. &c.

And ȝit I think it best that we
pluck vp our hairt and mirrie be
for thocht we wald ly doun and die
It will ws helpe na thing

IX.]

In this new ȝeir. &c.

Lat ws pray god to ſtainche this weir
that we may leif withouttin feir
In mirrienes quhill we ar heir
and hevin at o*ur* ending.
In this new ȝeir I ſie but weir
na caus *ȳair* is to ſing. &c.

Excellent Princes potent and preclair
prudent perles in bontie and bewtie
Maist nobill Quene of bluid vnd*er* ȳe air
With all my hairt and micht I welcŭm the
Hame to thy native people & countrie
Beſeikand god to give ȳe grace to haue
Of thy leigis the hairtis fayt*h*fullie
And thame in lŭif and fauo*ur* to reſſaue.

Now ſen thow art arryvit in this land
Our native Princes and Illuſter Quene
I traiſt to god ȳis Regioun ſall ſtand
ane auld frie realme as it lang tyme hes bene
Quhairin richt ſone *ȳair* ſalbe hard and ſein
greit Ioy, Iuſtice / gud peace & policie

all cair and cu*mm*mer baneiſt quyte and clein
and ilk man leif in gud tranquillitie.

I am not meit nor abill to furthſet
How thow ſall vſe discreitlie all thing heir
nor of ane Princes the dewtie & det
Quhilk I beleif thy hienes hes parqueir
Bot gif neid be thair is anew can leir
Thy maieſtitie of thy awin natioun
and geve ye counſale how to reull and ſteir
With wiſdome all belangand to thy croŭn.

3it I exhort ye to be circŭmſpect
of thy counſell in the electioun
Cheis faythfull men of prudence and effect
quha will for wrang mak dew correctioun
and doe Iuſtice without exceptioun
Men of knawledge gud lyfe and conſcience
That will not failȝie for affectioun
Bot of gud fame and Lang experience.

Quhilk gif thow doe I houp ȳat thow ſall ring
lang in ȳis land in greit felicitie
Will thow pleis god he will the ſend all thing
Is neidfull to maintein thy royaltie
Quha geif ye grace to guyde ſa prudentlie
that all thy doing be to his plesour.

And of

IX.]

And of Scotland to the co*mm*oditie
quhilk vnder god thow hes now in thy cŭire.

And gif thy hienes pleſit for to marie
That thow haue hap I pray the trinitie
To cheis and tak ane housband w*ith*out tarie
To thy hono*ur* and o*ur* vtilitie
Quha will and may maintein o*ur* libertie
Repleit of wiſdome and of godlines
Nobill and full of conſtance and lawtie
With gud ſucceſſioun to o*ur* quyetnes.

Madame I wes trew ſ*er*uand to thy mother
And In hir favo*ur* ſtŭid ay thankfullie
of my eſtait aſweill as onye other
prayand thy grace I may reſſauit be
In ſiclyik fauo*ur* with thy maieſtitie
Inclynand ay to me thy gracious eiris
And amang otheris ſervandis think on me
This laſt requeiſt I leirnit at the frieris.

And thocht that I to ſerue be not ſa habill
as I wes wont Becaus I may not ſie
ȝit in my hairt I ſalbe firme and ſtabill
To thy hienes with all fidelitie.

15 b [x.

Ay prayand god for thy proſperitie
And that I heir thy peopill with hie voice
And Ioyfull hairt cryand co*n*tinuallie
Viue marie trenoble royne d' Eſcoſs—.

S. R. M.

Ane Ballat maid at the winning of Calice.

Reioyis Henrie maiſt Chriſtiane king of france
Reioiſs all peopill of this Regioun
That hes with manheid and be happie chance
Be thy lieutenent trew of greit renoũn
The Duik of Guiſe recouerit Calice toũn
The quhilk hes bene twa hundreth ȝeiris bygaine
Into the handis of Englis natioun
quha neuer thocht be force It micht be tane.

Bot we may ſie that me*n*nis Iudgment
Is all bot vaine quhen god pleſis to ſchaw
his michtie power is omnipotent
for quhen he pleſis he can gar princes knaw
That he It is alane that rewlis all
And ma*n*nis helpe is all bot vanitie
Think ȝat it wes his hand that brak ȝe wall
Thairfoir give gloir to him Eternallie.

Sa hie ane purpoſe for to tak in hand
quha gef that prince ſa greit audacitie

x.]

To ſeige that toun that ſa ſtranglie did ſtand
and quha gave him ſic ſubſtance and ſupplie
And quha gave him the end and victorie
Quha bot greit god the guyder of all thingis
that quhen he pleſis can princes magnifie
And for ȳair ſyne tranſlait realmes & kingis.

That noble king wes greitlie to advance
quhilk efter that his Capitaines of renoũn
had tint ane feild be haſard and miſchance
ȝit tint na Courage for that miſſortoun
Bot lyik ane michtie vailȝeant campioun
Be his lieutenent and nobill men of weir
Tũik vpon hand to ſeige that ſtrongeſt toun
Into the deideſt tyme of all the ȝeir.

Thairfoir ȝe all that ar of Scottis bluid
Be blyith, Reioyiſs for ȳe recovering
of that ſtronge toun / and of ȳe fortoun gud
of ȝour maiſt tender frend that nobill king
Quhilk ay wes kynde in help and ſupporting
of ȝow be men and money copious
And in his hand hes Inſtantlie the thing
To ȝow Scottis that is maiſt precious.

Sen ȝe luif god in thingis outwardlie
In fyris and proceſſioun generall
So in ȝour hairtis luif him Inwardlie
Amend ȝour lyiffis repent ȝour ſinnis all

Doe equall reſſoun bayth to greit and ſmall
and euerie man doe his vocatioŭn
Than god ſall graŭnt 3ow quhen 3e on him call
of 3our fais ye dominatiouñ.

Sen god in the bigi*n*ning of this 3eir
Vnto that king ſa gud fortoun hes ſend
We pray to him ſic grace to graunt ws heir
That we get Berwik o*ur* merchis for to mend
Quhilk gif we get o*ur* bordo*uris* may defend
Aganis England with his helpe and ſupplie
And then I wald the weiris had ane end
And we to leif In peace and vnitie.

S. R. M.

The laird of Lethingtounis Counſale to his Sone beand in ye court.

My Sone In Court gif thow pleſis remaine
This my counſale into thy mynd Imprent
In thy ſpeiking luik that thow be not vaine
Behauld and heir and to thy tounge tak tent
Be no lear els thow ar ſchent
found the on treuth gif thow wald weill betyide
To gouerne all and reull be not o*ur* bent
He reullis weill that weill in court can guyde.

Be not ane ſcorner nor fein3it flatterar
nor 3it ane rounder of Inuentit taillis

XI.] 17

Of it thow heiris be not ane clatterar
fall not in plie for thing that lytill vaillis
Haue not to doe with oȝer me*n*nis faillis
fra wicked men thow draw the far on ſyide
Thow art ane fuile gif thow with fũillis deillis
he reullis weill that weill in court can gyde.

Be war quhomto thy coũnſale thow reveill
Sum may ſeme trew and ȝit diſſemblit be
Be of thy promeis and conditioun leill
Waiſt not thy gud in prodigalitie
Nor put thy hono*ur* into Ieopardie
With folk diffamit naȝ*er* gang nor ryide
with wilfull men to argone is folie
he rewllis weill that weill in court can gyde.

Be no dyiſſar nor player at the cairtes
bot gif it be for paſtyme and ſmall thing
be not blawin with windis of all airtis
Conſtant of gud of woſdome is ane ſing
Be wyiſe and tenty in thy goũerning
And trye thame weill in quhome thow will co*n*feid
Sum fair wordis will gif wald ſie ȝe hing
He reullis weill that weill in court can gyde.

Atto*ur* all thing ay to thy prince be trew
In thocht an deid in word in work and ſicht
fra treſſonabill companie eſchew

17 b [XI.

Thy princes honour and proffeit at thy micht
Set ay fordwart the pŭire bayth day and nicht
and let na thing the commoun weill elyde
And at all tyme maintein Iuſtice and richt
He reullis weill that weill in court can gyde

Preis not to be exaltit abone other
for gif thow doe thow ſalbe ſair Invyit
greit perrell is to tak on hand ye ruder
quhill firſt that thy experience be tryit
Think at the laſt thy doing wilbe ſpyit
thocht thow with ſlicht wald cover it and hyide
and all thy craft ſall at the croce be cryit
He rewlis weill yat weill in court can gyde.

Thocht thou in court be with ye hieſt placit
In honour office or in dignitie
Think that ſumtyme thow may be fra it chaſit
as ſum hes bene befoir and ȝit may be
neidfull it is thairfoir to gang warlie
That rakleſlie thow snapper not nor ſlyide
Ken ay thy ſelf beſt in proſperitie
He rewlis weill that weill in court can gyde.

Bewar in geving of ane hie coŭnſale
In materis greit and doutſum ſpeciallie
Quhilk be the working of ye warld may faill
Thocht it ſeme neuer ſa apperantlie
Behauld ye warldis Inſtabilitie

That neŭer ſtill intill ane ſtait dois byide
bot changeand ay as dois the mone and ſie
He rewllis weill that weill in court can gyde.

Gif with the people thow wald loŭit be
Be gentill lawtie and meik in thy eſtait
For and thow be vncourtiŭs proud and hie
then all the warld ſall the detaiſt and hait
Flie feinʒing, flattering / falſat and diſſait
Inuent na thing that may the realme devyide
ay nouriſch peace flie troubill and debait
he rewlis weill that weill in court ca*n* gyde.

Ground all thy doing vpon ſuthfaſtnes
and hauld the ay gud co*m*panie amang
Gadder na geir with craft and wrachitnes
Preis not to conqueis onye thing with wrang
evill gottin guddis leſtis neuer lang
thocht all wer thyne within this warld ſa wyde
Thow ſall fra It or it fra ȝe ſall gang
he rewllis weill that weill In court can gyde

Aboŭe all thing I the exhort and pray
To pleis thy god ſet all thy biſſie cŭire
And ſyne thy prince ſerue / loue weill and obey
and as thow may be helpand ay the pŭire
Sen Erdlie thing*is* will not ay Indŭire

Thairfoir in hevin ane place for the p*ro*vyide
q*uhair* thair is Ioy reſt gloir and all pleſour
vnto the quhilk eternall god ws guyde.

S. R. M.

O gratious god almichtie and eterne
for Ieſus ſaik thy ſone we aſk at the
ws to defend conſerve ws and guberne
And tak fra ws lord for thy greit m*er*cie
Thir plagis that apperis preſentlie
peſt povertie and maiſt vnkyndlie weir
Hunger and derthe that now is lyik to be
throw deid of beiſtis and ſcant of corn ȳis ȝeir.

Bot lord ȳis co*m*mis of thy Iuſt Iudgme*n*t
for puniſchme*n*t of o*u*r Iniquitie
that neuer of o*u*r ſinnis will repent
bot perſeueir In Impietie
We ar ſa ſoppit in ſenſualitie
baith ſpirituall and temporall eſtait
The peopill all miſguydit haillalie
not regnis now bot troubill and debait.

Sŭm tyme the preiſtis thocht thay did weill
quhen that thay maid *ȳair* berdis and ſchuif *ȳair* croŭn
Vſit round cappis and gounis to thair heill
and meſs and mateinis ſaid of *ȳair* faſſioun

Thocht that all vycis rang in *ȝair* perſoun
leicharie gluttonie vaine gloir and avarice
with ſworde and fyire for zeill of religioun
of chriſtiane peopill oft maid ſacrifice.

For quhilk god hes thame pŭneiſt richt ſchairplie
bot had thay left thair auld abuſioun
and turnit thame fra vyice to god trewlie
and ſyne forthocht *ȝair* wrang Intrŭſioun
Into the kirk be fals eluſioun
the worde of god ſyne preichit fayt*h*fullie
Thay had not cu*m*mit to ſic confuſioun
nor tholit had as ȝit ſic miſerie.

Now is Proteſtanis riſſin ws amang
Sayand thay will mak reformatioun
Bot ȝit as now ma vycis neuer rang
as pryide Inŭy fals diſſimulatioŭn
Diſſait adulterie and fornicatioun
Thift, reif, ſlauchter, oppreſſioun of the pŭire
of policie plaine alteratioun
of wrangous geir now na ma*n* takis cŭir.

Thay think it weill and thay ȝe pape doe call
The Antechriſt / and meſß Idolatrie
and ſyne eit fleſche vpon ȝe fraydayis all
that thay ſß*e*rue god richt then accordinglie

Thocht in all thing thay leif maiſt wickedlie
Bot god co*m*mandit ws his law to keip
firſt hono*ur* him and ſyne haue cheritie
With o*ur* ny*ch*tbour and for o*ur* ſinnis weip.

Think weill that god that puneiſt ȝe papiſtis
is ȝit on lyfe and ȝow to puneiſche abill
as he did thame that in ȝour ſinnis Infiſtis
as goddis worde wer hauldin bot ane fabill
Bot gif ȝour hairt on god be firme and ſtabill
thocht that his worde into ȝo*ur* mouth ȝe haue
except ȝour lyfe be thairto conformabill
In worde and worke ȝe bot ȝo*ur* ſelf diſſaue.

I mein not heir of faythfull Chriſtianis
nor miniſteris of goddis worde trewlie
That at ȝe ſamyn ſteidfaſtlie remanis
In worde and work without hypocreſie
Bot I doe mein of thame allanerlie
that callit ar the fleſchlie goſpellaris
Quha in ȝ*air* wordis apperis richt godlie
Bot ȝit ȝ*air* workis ȝe plaine co*n*trair declaris.

Bot thocht of papiſtis and proteſtantis ſum
hes bayth gane wrang and goddes law tranſgreſſit
keip ws gud lord that neuer mair we cum
To ſic erro*ur* bot grace to doe the beſt
that with all men thy trew fayth be confeſt
That Chriſtiane folk may leif in vnitie
Vertew ſet vp and all vycis ſuppreſt
That all the world gud lord may hono*ur* the.

S. R. M.

Amang foleis ane greit folie I find
quhen that ane man paſt fiftie ȝeir of aage
That in his vaine conſait growis ſo blind
as for to Ioyne himſelf in mariage
With ane ȝoŭng laſs quhais blŭid is ȝit in raige
Thinkand that he may ſerue hir appetit
Quhilk and he faill then will ſche him diſpyite.

Agit me*n* ſould Ioyis in morall taillis
and not in tailis for folie is to marie
fra tyme that bayt*h* ye *vair* ſtrenth and nature faillis
To tak ane wyf and bring him ſelf in tarie
For freſche maij and cauld Ianŭarij
Agreis not vpon ane ſang in Iune
The trebill wantis that ſould be ſonge abone.

Men ſould tak voyage at ye larkis ſang
and not at evin quhan passed is the day
Efter midage ye luiffar lyis full lang
quhen that his hair is tŭrnit lyart gray
ane auld gray berd on ane quhyte mouth to lay
Into ane bed it is ane piteous ſicht
The ane cryis help ye other hes no micht.

To haue bene m*e*rchant bygaine monye ane ȝeir
In handwarpe burges and in the toun of berrie
Syn Into deip for to tyine all his geir
With vaine conſait to pŭire him ſelf and herrie
greit perrell is for to pas o*ur* the ferrie

Into ane lekand bot not naillit fast
To beir the faill not havand ane ſteif maſt.

To tak ane melein that greit labo*ur* requyris
Syn wantis graith for to manuire this land
quhair ſeid wantis then men of teilling tyris
Then cu*m*mis ane findis it waiſt lyand
ȝoikis his pleuche teillis at his awin hand
Better had bene the firſt had neuer kendit
Nor thoill that ſchame and ſo my taill is endit.

S. R. M.

Blind man be blyithe thocht ȳ*at* thow be wrangit
thocht blyithe be herreit tak na mela*n*colie
Thow ſalbe blyithe quhen that thay ſalbe hangit
that blythe hes ſpuilȝit ſo malitiouſlie
be blyithe and glaid that nane p*er*ſaue in the
that thy blyithnes conſiſtis into riches
bot thow art blyith ȳ*at* thow eternallie
ſall ring with god in eternall blyithnes.

Thocht thay haue ſpŭilȝit blyith of gud and geir
ȝit haue thay left lyand ſtill the land
Quhilk to tranſport wes not in thair power
Nor ȝit wilbe thocht no ma*n* thame gaineſtand
Therfoir be blyith ȳe tyme may be at hand
quhen blyithe ſalbe ȝit with goddis grace
als weill pleneiſt as euer thay it fand
quhen ſum ſall rew the rinning of ȳat race.

Ay to be blyithe outwartlie appeir
that be na man It may perſauit be
That thow panſis for tinſell of thy geir
that thy onfreindis that ar proud and hie
be blyith and glaid of thy aduerſitie
Thairfoir be ſtout and lat thame vnd*er*ſtand
for loiſe of geir thow takis na ſuffie
for ȝit behind thow hes aneuch of land.

Be blyith and glaid ay in thy Intent
for leſum blyithnes is ane happie thing
Be ȳoŭ not blyithe quhat vaillit land or rent
and thow be blyith is caus of lang leving
Be thow not blyithe thocht thow wer ane king
Thy lyif is not bot cair without blyithnes
Thairfoir be blyith and pray to god ws bring
Till his blyithnes and Ioy ȳat is endles.

S. R. M.

Lŭik that na thing to ſine the tyice
Bot ground the ay vpon Iuſtice
ay follow vertew and flie vyce
of toung be trew
Ay hait all kyinde of covatice
Waiſt not thy guddis at the dyice
Flie fra all fŭillis that ar nyice
and thame eſchew.

Hauld the in honeſt companie
thy perſoun gyide ay honeſtlie
And haũnt na kyinde of harlatrie
fra ſyne abſtein
Deill with all folkis faythfullie
and vſe the neuer for to lie
Conqueis na guddis wrangouſlie
Be na fals mein
To euerie perſone doe reſſoun
keip ȝe fra melling with treſſoun
and tak in thank and gude ſeſſoun
Quhat god will ſend
Put na man be oppreſſioun
furth of thair Iuſt poſſeſſioun
To god mak Interceſſioun
for ane gud end.

finis q̄. S. R. M.

The lord ȝat raiſe from lyif againe
that deid for ws on gud fryday
Quhilk ſufferit mekill woe and paine
With Iewis that wer hard of fay
Wer he amang ws now this day
He wald far mair thoill and ſuſtein
for now as I heir all men ſay
Is the worſt warld that euer wes ſein.

Ane heroid rang into thay ȝeiris
ane murtherar of Innocentis
Bot now he hes ane thowſand feiris
far crueller in thair Intentis
To rug and reif and tak vp rentis
The poure peopill oppreſſand clein
for ȝe quhilk thing ſum ſair repentis
In ȝis worſt warld ȝat euer wes ſein.

That tyme ȝ*air* wes bot ane pilat
now is thair ma nor fiftie ſcoir
With als fair wordis of diſſait
as had the oȝer of befoir
ſa fast into this warld thay ſoir
to trew me*n* dois mekill tein
thair craft ay kyithis moir and moir
as in this warld it is now ſein.

That tyme thair wes bot ane Caiphas
that did accuſe o*ur* lord Ieſus
Bot now is mony ma alace
the Innocentis for to p*er*ſew
Thair is bakbyteris now anew
Bot of gud me*n* thair is o*ur* quhein
That will and can gif counſell trew
as in ȝis warld it may be ſein.

The torme*n*taris wer then ſo ſcant
Chryist for to ſcurge ſcairis found wer ſax

Now of ane thouſand not ane dois want
Thair wicked nu*m*ber ſo dois wax
To ſpoil3ie pour me*n* of *ȝair* pakis
To reif can na ma*n* thame refraine
Quhill that thay gar ane widdie rax
In this worſt warld ȝat euer wes ſeine.

Thair wes ane Iudas in that tyme
for syluer did his maiſter ſell
Bot now is ſmittit with that cryme
Ane thowſand ma nor I can tell
That dois in this countrie dwell
Wald ſell *ȝair* faullis as I wein
for geir vnto the deuill of hell
In this worſt warld ȝat euer wes ſein.

Peter to Annas hous him dreſt
quhair he his maiſter did deny
Monye with mouth hes now co*n*feſt
Thay ar of Chriſtis companie
Bot and 3e will thair workis eſpy
3e ſall ſie thame befoir 3o*ur* ein
Denyand Chriſt alluterlie
as be thair lyffis may be ſein.

Pilat let bot ane theif gang
Quhen he put Ieſus Chriſt to deid
Bot now fyve hundreth theiffis ſtrang
at anis will thair remiſſioun ſpeid

And trew

And trew folk can get na remeid
Quhat wrang that euer thay ſuſtein
quhilk garris monye beg *ȝair* breid
In this worſt warld ȝat euer wes ſein.

Fra Pilat fand of deid na caus
In Chriſt he wald haue lattin him ga
I wald thay that leidis our lawis
and o*ur* Iudges wald now doe ſa
Compell no Innocent to pay
nor thame convict be ſubtell mein
Nor in thair ſyſiſs put not *ȝair* ſa
let na partialitie be ſein.

Thairfoir princes and Magiſtratis
and ȝe in Court that office beir
that for auctoritie debaittis
To hurt the Innocent tak feir
for feid ſuſpitioun or for geir
fra wrang proceding ay abſtein
In dreid god ather hyne or heir
His vengeance gar on ȝow be ſein.

As Iewis wer to Chriſt vnkynd
for all his werkis and gudnes
His miraclis put furth of mynd
quhen that to deid thay did him dreſs
Swa In this warld all thankfulnes
and all auld kyndnes that hes bein
and all gud turnis mair and leſs
ar clein forȝet and now o*ur*ſein.

Apperantlie now all men ſayis
That all Staittis ar in diſpair
Thinkand can thay put of *ȝair* dayis
quhat ſall cŭm efter thay tak no cair
Thocht all this regioun ſould forfair
of *ȝair* will will not want ane prein
Quhilk will mak monye biggingis bair
and ane waiſt countrie to be ſein.

Quhair is the zelous men and wyiſe
of kirk and of ȝe temporall ſtait
That in ȝis realme hes bein oft ſyſs
That wald tak travell air and lait
To ſtainche all trowbill and debait
And ane greit perrell could prevein
And now the lordis to gang ane gait
The co*mm*oun weill to be foirſein.

God mak ws quyte of all blaſphemaris
and of all men of euill conditioun
god mak ws quyte of all me*n*tenaris
amangis ws of ſeditioun
And all raſeris of ſuſpitioun
Send ws gud men to gang betwein
The lordis to mak vnioun
That peace may in this land be ſein.

God keip the kingis maieſtitie
and gif him graces monyfauld
This land to keip In libertie
In peace and Iuſtice to ws hauld

Sa that na p*er*ſoun 3oung nor auld
ſall ony caus haue to complein
That Iuſtice now is coft and ſauld
as o*y*er tymes hes bein ſein.
S. R. M.

Gif Trowbill cu*m*mis be evento*ur*
and not throw thy miſgou*er*nance
Then patientlie thow it Indŭire
quhill god plefis ſend bettir chance

Trowble ſumtymes is profitable
and gevis men Intelligence
To ken *y*air god makis thame able
and of thame ſelff experience.

Behauld the Inſtabilitie
of *y*is fals warld and how it gais
This day ane ma*n* ſet vp in hie
To morne ſet doŭn amang his fais.

Thow may ſie greit vnfayt*h*fulnes
Intill all ſtaitis regnand now
amang thame is ſic doubilnes
That na ma*n* may ane other trew.

For and thy bak be at *y*e wall
or ſum Infortoun happin the
Then will thy quentance leif *y*e all
How neir of blŭid that euer thay be.

And gif thow helping at thame crave
Thay kinſmen will neuer knaw the

Nor ȝit mair pitie on the haue
nor will the man ꝥat neuer ſaw the.

Quhairfoir my councell is trewlie
how euer the warld ga vp or doun
Be glaid in hairt ay leſumlie
and Iust in thy vocatiouñ

For thocht now for this miſerie
and displeſo*ur* thy ſelf wald ſla
Quhat kynd of gud will that doe the
Bot greif thy freind and glaid thy fa.

Thairfoir thank god quhat euer he ſend
and to thy ny*ch*tbo*ur* doe na wrang
And ay thy Iuſt querrell defend
and neuer by the richt way gang.

Pray thow to god bayth evin and morrow
To keip ay clein thy conſcience
quhat euer cu*m*mis ſeill or ſorrow
To tak all thing In patience.

S. R. M.

O leving lord ꝥat maid bayth hevin and hell
fra ws expell / this cruell ciŭill weir
That all this ȝeir / hes done ꝥis cou*n*trie quell
that nane can tell / how thay ſall keip ꝥ*air* geir
nor without feir / q*uhair* thay ſall reſt or duell.

Alace ꝥis is ane miſerabill lyfe
of ſturt and ſtryfe / that na ma*n* can wit how

Keip ox or kow / the theiffis ar ſo ryfe
ȝe evin to fyfe / thay ryid the countrie throw
rax thay I trow / thay ſall wrak ma*n* and wyfe. 10

For thift nor reif nor me*n* of euill conditiouñ
Is na pŭnitioŭn / nor for na wicked deid
bot deidlie feid / gif ȝe ask reſtitutioun
wrang Intromiſſioun / now cu*m*mis waill gud ſpeid
We had greit neid / of Iuſtice the fruitioun. 15

Quhat is the caus of all ȳis greit confuſioun
Bot ȳe diŭiſioun / of lordis maiſt potent
In land and rent / mony wrangous Intruſioun
and greit effuſioun / now of bluid Innocent
for pŭniſchment / thair is bot abuſioun. 20

Sŭm me*n*nis land / and melling with kirk geir
makis all this weir / diſcord makis additioun
Sum ſayis ambitioun / that wald haue reŭll & ſteir
Bot ȝit I feir that men full of ſeditioun
hes ſawin ſuſpitioun / that credence is areir 25

Inimitie is ane richt wicked ſeid
quhat deidlie feid / It workis ȝe may ſie
continŭallie / ȝour lyffis ar In dreid
Quhairfoir of neid / ȝo*ur* geir ma*n* waſtit be
Gud vnitie for that is beſt remeid. 30

God give his grace the lordis till agrie
That we may ſie / ſum Iuſtice in this land

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Quhilk can not ſtand and thay diŭydit be
This to ſupplie / gud me*n* put to ȝo*ur* hand
Mak ane ſŭir band / ſyn keip it faythfullie.

ȝe lordis all at god mercie Imploir
diſcord vaine gloir / is caus of this miſcheif
all thift and reif / ȝe ma*n* anſ*er* *ȝair* foir
And it reſtoir / or hang revar or theif
god ſend releif / that wrang Induire no moir.

I ſpeik this to the lordis of bayth ȝe ſyidis
And all that rydis / the countrie to oppres
and to purches / pour me*n*nis gud thame prydis
and not confydis / that thay ſall mak redreſs
or thay poſſes / the Ioy that god p*ro*vydis.

S. R. M.

At morning in ane gardein grein
I went alone to tak ȝe air
Quhair mony pleſand treis wes ſein
And ſindrie kynd of floŭris fair
Quhen I did walk and gang
thir fair flo*uris* amang
Into my mynd thair come with cair
ane thing that maid my hairt full fair
that leſtit hes o*ur* lang

Quhen I think on ȝe greit miſcheiff
that regnis now in this countrie
Withouttin houp ſyne of releif
Wnles that god of his mercie

And his divyne power
ſtainche ȝis vnkyndlie weir
Without ȝe q*uhi*lk apparandlie
This haill land will deſtroyit be
Richt haiſtalie I feir.

It is ane pitie to heir tell
how the puire co*m*mounis of this land
fra wrang can not debait *ȝair* ſell
fra reif and ſpoylȝie of ſum band
Of ſuddartis of ſum ſyde
That nane dar ga*n*g nor ryde
For Trowbling of ſum wicked hand
I wait not how this realme ſall ſtand
And lymmaris wak ſo wyde.

O lord q*uhair* ar thais zeloŭs men
That in this land hes bene oft ſyis
That quhen they could p*er*ſaue or ken
Ane trowble in ȝe countrie ryis
With wiſdome and foirſicht
Thay wald ſet all *ȝair* micht
Be greit travell and wordis wyſe
And remedie wald ſone devyiſe
And ſet all thingis aricht.

Bot now thair is not ane alace
That I ken in this regioun
That ather hes hap wit or grace
To mak concord and vnioun

Thairfoir god ſend remeid
and helpe ws in o*ur* neid
For mony hes Inue*n*tioũn
for to Incres diſſentioun
And foſter deidlie feid

The greteſt caus of this diſcord
is for o*ur* ſinnis puniſchme*n*t
With mouth we ſay we loue the lord
and far fra him in our Intent
To ſpeik of god delytis
In doing him diſpytis
Reddie to reif ane man his rent
Not dredand goddis Iudgment
as feinȝit Ipocreitis

I ken nane now for goddis love
To doe ane wrang that will forbeir
Nor ȝit will ſtope for to remove
his ny*ch*tbour baith fra land and geir
And nothing by thay ſet it
How wrangouſlie thay get it
For of *ȝair* god thay haue no feir
To gar thair ny*ch*tbo*ur* leif p*er*queir
fra thay haue Intromettit.

England is glaid quhen It is tauld
Of Scottis the diuiſioun
And for our foliſchnes thay hauld
Our doingis In deriſioun.

Bot wald we weill conſidder
Thay hoŭnd ws ay togidder.
Makand ȝair awin proviſioun
for our greit ſcayth and leſioun
The grip of thame is ſlidder.

Ȝit the ane part on thame dependis
The other on france for thair ſupplie
Ilkane fra other thame defendis
as fra ane commoun enemie
I pray god I heir tell
we grie amang our ſell
And ſyne that all ȝis haill countrie
of france and England bayth wer frie
With thame na mair to mell.

Quhen that ȝe ane the other wraikis
The quhilk will not be done lichtlie
Without travell and monye ſtraikis
Bot quhat ſall ȝis worke finallie
Bot rais ane deidlie feid
of quhilk we haue na neid.
In the meintyme greit policie
And gud toŭnis deſtroyit be
And monye man lye deid.

Thairfoir my lordis hauld vp ȝour handis
Thocht of ȝour will ȝe want ſum thing
Or be diſtroyit men and landis
Quhilk wilbe hurtfull to the king
for his weill It is maiſt
That ȝe aggrie In haiſt
For quhen he is of aage to ring
quhair on to leif ſall find na thing

Bot all the coñtrie waiſt.

God give the lordis grace till aggrie
And baneiſche all ſeditioŭn
Syn ay to leif In vnitie
and quyte of all ſuſpitioun
And then to mak ane band
ay In kyndnes to ſtand
Ilk man get reſtitutioŭn
And fullie Intromiſſioun
Of *ȝair* awin geir and land.

I pray to god Omnipotent
To ſend ws peace quhill we ar heir
Ilk ane may leif vpon *ȝair* rent
Or on thair craft withouttin feir
And with Sanct paull I pray
To tak thame ſone awaye
That caus is of ȝis mortall weir
And the firſt tydingis that I heir
That thay be laid in clay.

S. R. M.

Thocht that ȝis warld be verie ſtrainge
And theiffis hes done my rowmes range
And Teynd my fauld
ȝit I wald leif and byide ane chainge
Thocht I be auld.

Now me to ſpoilȝie ſum me*n* not ſpairis
To tak my geir na Capitane cairis
Thay ar ſa bauld.

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Ȝit tyme may cum may mend my fairis
Thocht I be auld.

Sŭm now be force of men of weir
My houſs my landis and my geir
fra me thay hauld
Ȝit as I may ſall mak gud cheir
Thocht I be auld.

Sa weill Is kend my Innocence
That I will not for non offence
flyte lyik ane ſcauld
Bot thank god and tak patience
For I am auld.

For eild and my Infirmitie
Warme clayth*is* ar better for me
To keip fra cauld
Nor In Dame venŭs chalmer be
for I am auld.

Of venŭs play paſt is the heit
for I may not ȝe miſteris beit
Of meg nor mald
For ane ȝoung laſs I am not meit
I am ſa auld.

The faireſt wenche in all this toŭn
Thocht I hir had in hir beſt goun
Richt bravelie brald
With hir I micht not play the loun
I am ſo auld.

My wyf ſum tyme wald taillis trow
and mony leſingis weill allow
Wer of me tauld
Scho will not eindill on me now
I am ſo auld.

My hors my harneis and my ſpeir
And all other my hoiſting geir
now may be ſauld
I am not abill for ȝe weir
I am ſo auld.

Quhen ȝoung men cu*mm*is fra ȝe grein
Playand at the futball had bein
With brokin ſpauld
I thank my ȝod I want my ein
I am ſo auld.

Thocht I be ſweir to ryide or gang
Thair is ſum thing I wantit lang
Faine haue I wald
And thame puniſche that did me wrang
Thocht I be auld.
S. R. M.

It is greit pitie for to ſe
How ȝe co*mm*ounis of ȝis countrie
for thift and reif and plaine oppreſſioun
Can na thing keip in thair poſſeſſioun
q*uhair*of that thay may mak ane lyfe
ȝit nane will puniſche that tranſgreſſioun
Thocht nocht be left to man nor wyfe.

XXI.

Sŭm with deir ferme ar herreit haill
That wont to pay bot pe*n*nie maill
Sŭm be thair lordis ar oppreſt
put fra the land that thay poſſeſt
Sair ſ&ervice hes ſum hereit ſone
for cariadge als ſum hes no reſt
Thocht thair awin worke sould ly vndone.

Sŭm co*m*mounis that hes bene weill ſtaikit
vnder kirkme*n* ar now all wraikit
Sen that the teynd and ȝe kirklandis
come In greit temporalle me*n*nis handis
Thay gar the te*n*nentis pay ſic ſowmes
as thay will aſk or quha gaineſtandis
thay wilbe put ſone fra thair rowmes.

The Teynd that tennentis had befoir
of thair awin malingis corne and ſtoir
Thair lairdis hes taine it o*u*r thair heid
and garris ȝame to his ȝaird it leid
Bot ȝ*air* awin ſtok thay dar not ſteir
Thocht all ȝ*air* bairnis ſould want breid
Quhill thay haue led ȝ*at* teynd ilk ȝeir.

Sic extortioun and Taxatioŭn
Wes neuer ſene Into this natioŭn
Taine of ȝe co*m*mounis of this land
Of quhilk ſum left waiſt lyand
Becaus few may ſic chairgis beir
mony has quhippis now in thair hand
That wont to haue bayth Iak and ſpeir.

Quhairthrow the haill co*m*mounitie
Is brocht now to ſic povertie
for thay that had gud hors and geir
hes ſcantlie now ane crŭikit meir
And for thair ſaiddillis thay haue ſoddis
Thay haue no wappinnis worth for weir
Bot ma*n* deffend with ſtanis and cloddis.

Thairfoir my lordis I ȝow pray
for the pŭire co*m*mounis find ſum gud way
ȝour land to thame for ſic pryice geif
as on thair maling thay may leif
Sufficientlie to thair eſtait
Syne thame defend that nane thame greif
That may ſerue ȝow bayth air & lait.

Riche co*m*mounis ar richt proffitabill
quhen thay to ſerve *ȝair* lord ar abill
Thair native countrie to defend
Fra thame that hurt it wald pretend
for we wilbe our few ane nu*m*mer
Gif co*m*mounis to ȝe weir not wend
Nobillis may not beir all the cu*m*mer.

Help ȝe co*m*mounis bayth lord and laird
and god thairfoir ſall ȝow rewaird
and gif ȝe will not thame ſupplie
god will ȝow plaige thairfoir Iuſtlie
and ȝo*u*r ſucceſſioun efter ȝow
gif thay ſall haue na mair pitie
On the co*m*mounis nor ȝe haue now.

S. R. M.

Treaſone is the maiſt ſchamfull thing
That may In onye countrie Ring
And ſould be hatit maiſt
Bot now in this vnhappie tyme
Sa monye ar ſmittit with that cryme
That few dar other traiſt.

Thair is ſa mony ſubtill wyile
Ilkane ane other to begyile
Fra lawtie ſo thay leip
For gredines of geir and land
Thair will na kyndnes blŭid nor band
gar ſum thair credence keip.

Greit nu*m*ber ar In dyuerſ§ landis
That prince and magiſtrat gaineſtandis
Rebelland crewallie
I will not ſpeik in ſpeciall
Bot pray all In generall
That wicked vyice to flie.

The deith of Chriſt wes confortabill
To Chriſtiane men maiſt profitabill
ȝit foull wes Iudas pairt
Men ſould haue thame abominabill
Abone all other deteſtabill
That ſtudeis in that art.

Lyik as Subiectis with trew Intent
Sould be leill and obedient
To thair ſuperio*uris*
Sua ſould na prince nor magiſtrat
Be craftie meinis and diſſait
Hurt *ȝair* Inferio*uris*.

Quhilk gif thay doe thame ſelff ȝai ſchame
And thocht men dar not thame defame
ȝit god that ſeis all
May pŭniſche thame within ſchort ſpace
And fra *ȝair* heiche and princlie place
gif thame ane ſchamefull fall.

Thairfoir all ſubiectis I ȝow pray
Love ȝour Princes and thame obey
Aganis thame work na treſſoun
Siclyik princis and magiſtratis
Wraik not ȝo*ur* awin with fals conſaittis
Bot doe thame richt and reſſoun

All ȝe that ſould be Chriſtin men
ȝour hono*ur* and ȝour dewtie ken
Quhat ȝe ſould doe to other
For na proffeit ȝe may haue
ȝour freind or ny*ch*tbo*ur* nocht deſaue
Bot lŭiff ȝo*ur* Chriſtiane Brother.

Sua I exhort ȝow all eſtaitis
Ceis fra diſſimulance and diſſaitis
And of fals pŭnkis ȝow pŭrge
And ilkane

And Ilkane be to other trew
Or ellis ȝe ſall not eſchew
Of god the mortall ſcurge.
S. R. M.

Sumtyme to court I did repair
Thairin ſum errandis for to dreſs
Thinkand I had ſum freindis thair
To help fordwart my buſines
Bot nocht the les
I fand na thing bot doubilnes
auld kyndnes helpis not ane hair.

To ane greit Court man I did ſpeir
That I trowit my freind had bene
Becaus we war of kin ſo neir
To him my mater I did mein
Bot with diſdaine
He fled as I had done him tein
And wald not byide my taill to heir.

I wend that he in word and deid
For me his kinſman ſould haue wrocht
Bot to my ſpeiche he tŭik na heid
Neirnes of blŭid he ſet at nocht
Then weill I thocht
Quhen I for ſibnes to him ſocht
It wes the wrang way that I ȝeid.

My hand I put Into my ſleif
and furth of it ane purs I drew

And ſaid I brocht it him to geif
Bayth gold and ſiluer I him ſchew
Then he did rew
That he vnkyndlie me miſknew
and hint ȝe purſ̃ faſt in his neif

Fra tyme he gat the purſ̃ in hand
he kyndlie Couſing callit me
and bad me gar him vnderſtand
my buſines all haillalie
And ſwore that he
My trew and faythfull freind ſould be
In court as I pleis him co*m*mand.

For q*uhi*lk better It is I trow
Into the court to get ſupplie
To haue ane purſ̃ of fyne gold ſow
Nor to the hieſt of degrie
of kin to be
Sa alteris o*u*r nobilitie
greit kynred helpis lytill now.

Thairfoir my freindis gif ȝe will mak
all courtme*n* ȝouris as ȝe wald
gud gold and ſyluer with ȝow tak
Then to get help ȝe may be bald
for it is tald
Kyndnes of coŭrt is coft and ſauld
Neirnes of kin nathing thay rak.
S. R. M.

XXIV.] 31

Paſtyme with godlie companie
Now in this warld is left for me
Sen that I am of ſa greit aage
all diſpleſour for to aſſuage
Gud is to luik in Goddis buik
Quhair may be found
The perfectioun of religioun
Of fayth the ground.

All pleſour vaine I will refuiſe
for my paſtyme the byble vſe
Thocht I be auld and may not ſie
I ſall It gar be red to me
Quhair I ſall leir for to forbeir
All wickednes
Vyce to refũiſe vertew to vſe
with godlines.

To reid or heir the holie writ
trew knawledge ſall I get in it
How I ſall haue me at all houris
Bayth to my god and nichtbo*uris*
Inſtructand me to patientlie
My troubill beir.
Syne to repent with trew Intent
quhill I am heir.

Sen in this erd I find no reſt
Reioyis In god I think it beſt

31 b

XXV.

Quha in this lyfe geve me his grace
Syne bring me to that reſting place
Quhair Ioy and gloir / is euer moir
peace and concord
To that ilk Ioy / doe·me convoy
Iesus o*ur* lord.

S. R. M.

Ȝe nobillis all that ſould ȳis coũntrie guyde
It To preſerue quhy doe ȝe not p*ro*vyide
as of ȳe co*m*moun weill ȝe had na cair
for quhilk ȳis realme is liklie to forfair
Throw ȝo*ur* greit negligence
That makis na defence
fra scayt*h* it for to keip
Bot thoillis It to be ſpilt
throw ȝo*ur* greit fleuth & gilt
q*uhi*lk garris mony weip.

It is ȳe caus of o*ur* calamitie
amang ȝow lordis the Inimitie
That ar devydit now in p*ar*teis twa
Perſewand other as ȝour mortall fa
With maiſt vnkyndlie weir
for ȳe quhilk thing I feir
Without thair be ſum dreſs
That all this land ſall rewit
And Enemeis perſew it
Thay ſall it ſone oppreſs.

xxv.]

Is thair na wyſe and gud men of renoŭn
Lŭifand the commoun weill of ȝis regioŭn
That will vpon thame paine and travell tak
Amang the lordis gud vnitie to mak
And ſic ane perfyte peace
That may our ſorrow ceiſs
Ilkane other aſſiſt
Sic quyetnes to ſtabill
That we may be mair abill
Our fais to reſiſt.

Better It wer ȝe lordis for till aggrie
Nor with ſtraingeris to cummer ȝis countrie
Gif ony cŭm we ſall foirthink it ſair
Ws to oppres for na man thay will ſpair
And nathing thay will want
That is quhair that thay hant
and lytill for it pay
Thay will not ſpair to ſpŭilȝie
Or ellis thay will tŭilȝie
Gif ony thame gaineſay.

For gif that ȝe that dependis on ȝe king
for ȝour ſupport the Engliſmen Inbring
At lenth thairof ȝe ſall mak litill rŭſe
Think on the wordis king Edward ſpak to brŭſe
Haue we not ellis to doe
Bot win ane roŭme ȝow to
quhilk pat ȝe brŭſe to paine
Gif thay cum heir I trow

The ſame ſall ſay to 3ow
and 3e ask ocht againe.

And gif it chance the Quenis ſyide to be
With all ſtraingeris cu*m*mand in hir ſupplie
With Engliſmen vanqueiſt and put away
Then will thay hauld 3ow for ane facill pray
And quhat thay get in hand
Caſtell toun or land
Thay will it not reſtoir
Bot keip it to thame ſell
And think *ȝair*in to duell
as thay haue thocht befoir.

And gif that 3e that dependis on the Quein
Frenchmen bring in hir quarrell to ſuſtein
Remember how thay pleit 3ow befoir
3e war richt red thay ſould 3ow not reſtoir
To 3our auld libertie
Bot thocht *ȝat* 3e ſould be
Subiect ay thame to
Gif I ſall trewlie wryte
Or 3e war of thame quyt
3e had aneuch to do.

Thairfoir my lordis Into 3o*ur* hairtis Imprent
To bring ſtraing*er*is the Inconvenient
Thay help 3ow not for loue thay haue to 3ow
Bot for *ȝair* awin greit proffeit and *ȝair* prow

Ilkane other to love
q*uhi*lk greitlie ſould ȝow move
and caus to aggrie
And ȝo*ur* awin weill conſidder
Thairfoir knit ȝow togidder
To keip o*ur* libertie.

And ȝe In hand quhilk hes the greteſt ſtrenth
Quhat it will ſ̃erve I wait not at the lenth
It may be wyne It may be teint be treſſoun
Thairfoir applye ȝou ay to richt and reſſoun
And of peace be content
Thocht ſum of ȝo*ur* Intent
ȝe want for eŭer mair
ȝe ar not ſwir I trow
quha will cŭm releif ȝow
and ȝe be ſeigit ſair.

Sum ar diſſemblit ȝit proud in thair conſait
Bot other ſpyis weill aneuche *ȝair* gait
Noȳer for kingis nor Quenis auctoritie
ȝe ſtryfe bot for particularitie
That can not be content
of *ȝair* awin land and rent
as *ȝair* fatheris befoir
Bot gif thay fill *ȝair* handis
With other me*n*nis landis
geir vittall and ſtoir.

Ane other caus thair is of this ſeditioun
Amang the lordis the vehement ſuſpitioun
The ane trowis gif that ȝe other be
abone thame put Into auctoritie
Thay ſall haue caus to dreid
forfaltis and auld feid
That ȝai ſall tak revenge
of ȝis wicked conſait
That noureiſt hes debait
god all this countrie clenge.

I pray to him that is of lordis lord
Bring all our lordis to ane perfyte concord
And with ȝi grace thair ſprits all Inſpyire
Amang thame kendill of cheritie ȝe fyire
All rancour and Invy
and faultis paſſit by
To be forȝettin clein
That Iuſtice executioun
for wickednes pŭnitioun
May in this land be ſein.

S. Richart Maitland of Lethingtoun.

xxvi.] 34

Ȝe that ſumtyme hes bene weill ſtaikit
Thocht of ȝour geir ſum be Inlaikit
And ȝo*ur* ſelf Into trouble brocht
Of ȝis fals warld tak neuer thocht.

Of houſhald graith ſum richt ſcant war 5
With oȝer me*nn*is geir now pleniſit ar (10)
Better nor euer thair fatheris bocht
Ȝit of this fals warld tak no thocht.

To ſum thair is bot lytill left (5)
Bot with greit wrang ar plainlie reft 10
With diŭillis limmis that neuer docht
Ȝit of ȝis fals warld tak no thocht.

To Reve ȝ*air* ny*ch*tbo*ur* now few rakis
for feir of gòd bot daylie takis
fra thame that neuer ocht thame ocht 15
Ȝit of this fals warld tak no thocht.

Sŭm to thair freind wes ſo faythles
That vnder colo*ur* of kyndnes
Thame to deſtroy did all ȝay mocht
Ȝit of this fals warld tak no thocht. 20

Sum that richt weill pleneiſt hes bein
Thair landis now ar waiſtit clein
With co*mm*oun theiffis that leiffis nocht
Ȝit of this fals warld tak no thocht.

Diſtroyit is the policie
for ȝe maiſt pairt of this countrie
To wraik the reſt fair wayis ar ſocht
ȝit of ȝis fals warld tak no thocht.

I hoŭpe the tyme ſall cum ſchortlie
ſall gar all wicked companie
Repent the wrang that thay haue wrocht
for puniſching thay ſall tak thocht.

S. R. M.

How ſould our commoun weill Indŭire
God to offend we tak no cŭir
And nane preiſſis thair lyfe to amend
for na trowbill that god will ſend
as plaigis cum be eventŭire.

Quhen derth cummis or peſtilence
We ſay It is be accidence
And gif weir cummis ony way
The moveris hes the wyte we ſay
And cummis not be our offence.

And gif we move ȝe weir our ſell
We ſay we haue ane gud querrell
And will nather perſaue nor kna
That god for ſyn will lat ws fa

Into miſcheif and oft perrell.

The greit me*n* ſayis that *ȝair* diſtres
Cu*m*mis for ȝe peopillis wickednes
The peopill ſayis the tranſgreſſioun
of greit men and thair oppreſſioun
Bot nane will thair awin ſyn co*n*fes.

S. R. M.

It is ane mortall paine to heir and ſie
of ȝis fals warld ȝe mutabilitie
fra weill to wo, fra treuth to doubilnes
fra p*er*fyte lyfe to fraud and fikilnes
fra godlie lyf to ſenſualitie.

And fra hono*ur* to warldlie wretchitnes
and fra vertew to vyice and wickednes
fra all gud ordo*ur* to confuſioun
fra law and Iuſtice to abuſioun
fra trew mening to colowred craftines.

Fra policie to plaine deſtructioun
fra vnitie to greit diuiſioun
fra cheritie to malice and Inŭy
fra clein leiffing In carnell luſt to ly
All euill is vp and all gudnes is doun.

For na*ȝer* hono*ur* fayth nor conſcience
nor gratitude done of beneuolence

Neirnes of bluid nor ȝit affinitie
Can In this warld gar kindnes kepit be
As may be ſein be plaine experience

For gredines now gydis all eſtaitis
Inſtructand ꝑame with covetous co*n*ſaittis
Sayand to ſŭm quhy doe ȝe want ꝑis land
This tak / this ſteid that lyis ſo neir hand
It for to get I can find twentie gaittis

Quhen gredines had found ſum wicked way
Then come kyndnes that purpoſe for to ſtay
And ſaid to him that gredines had dreſt
Be his counſell his ny*ch*tbo*urs* to moleſt
Tent to my taill and heir quhat I will ſay.

Quhy will ȝe now co*mm*it ſo greit offence
Againe all reſſoun and gud conſcience
To tyne ȝo*ur* nichtbo*ur* ȝo*ur* kinſmen & ȝo*ur* freindis
for gredines of onye land or teyndis
And to the ꝑŭire to doe ſic violence.

Then cu*mm*is in S*i*r gredines belyiff
With thir wordis away kyndnes to dryiff
Quhat is ſcho this can paint ſo fair a taill
Sa far aganis ȝo*ur* proffeit and ȝo*ur* availl
Get ſcho credence ſcho will ſtope ȝow to thryif

XXVIII.]

And ȝe hir coŭnſell other doe or heir
ȝe will not conqueis mekill land or geir
Put hir away and mell with hir na mair
With that thay keſt dame kyndnes over ȳe ſtair
And gredines held hir ay areir.

Quhen dame kyndnes wes rebuikit ſa
Then Cheritie and dame pitie can ga
And ſaid It is ane verie wicked deid
To tak thy ny*ch*tbo*uris* maling over his heid
And with greit rigo*ur* baneiſche him ȳ*air*fra.

And als it is aganis goddis co*m*mand
For to deſyre ȝo*ur* nichtbo*uris* geir or land
With violence to put ane puir ma*n* out
god will ȝow plaig thairfoir w*ith*outtin dout
Except ȝe mend ȝe ſall not chaipe his hand.

Then gredines ſaid with ane ſturtſum cheir
Quha mekill deŭill brocht ȳir twa harlottis heir
Furth at the dur he ſchot thame quyte away
And ſyne he ſaid gif ȝe wald cheir ȳir tway
ȝe wald not purches mekill land ȳis ȝeir.

Alace q*uhair* is the warld that ſum hes ſein
Sic cheritie in all eſtaittis hes bein
That na man wald for ſteding tak nor teyndis
Diſpleis ȳ*air* nichtbo*uris* na pour ma*n* nor ȳ*air* ſrendis
Dame kyndnes ay ſa travelit thame betwene.

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Thairfor I pray to god that is above
fra all our hairtis ȝis gredines remove
That euerie man may with cheritie
Of his awin rentis ſo contentit be
That we may leif into frat*er*nall love.

S. R. M.

Greit paine It is to behauld and ſie
Into this realme the greit cupiditie
for ȝis fals warld the peopill hes ſo blindit
To thair Intent thay trow to euer bind it
All haill thair hairtis to covetice ar growin
Thay ſeik aneuch bot thay ſall neuer find it
Quhill that thay cum other to hell or hevin.

With gredines ar Infectit all ſtaitis
for to get land and geir thay ſeik all gaittis
And cũiris not to get it wrangouſlie
Be fraud or force or with ſubtilitie
To find proffeit thay leif na thing on ſocht
Sumtyme not ſpair to vse crudelitie
To thair purpoſe gif that may help ȝame ocht.

Sum to get land or geir will nouriſche ſtryſe
Sum it to get will be of ane wratchit lyſe
Sum will not ſpair for favo*u*r nor for feid
To tak *ȝair* ny*ch*tbo*uris* rowmes ouer thair heid
Quhilk thay and thairis hes bruikit ȝis lang tyme
and ſum wald haue *ȝair* ny*ch*tbo*ur* put to deid
To get thair land for ane Inventit cryme.

xxix.] 37

Sum gadderis geir and hes na grace to ſpend it
Sum dois wrang and hes no will to mend it
Sum leiffis all thair dayis wickedlie
To reve the pŭire richt few hes now pitie
And thair is monye ane that lytill cairis
To put bayth ſaul and lyif In-Ieopardie
To mak ane mekill conqueis to *ȝair* airis.

Syne wait not weill quhat thair airis wilbe
nor quhat will cŭm of thair poſteritie
for ſum may be greit fŭillis naturall
Sum may be westo*uris* and mak quyte of all
Sum greit druncardis and ſpend *ȝair* thrift at wyne
Su*m* may co*m*mit ſic deidis criminall
That may thame gar bayth geir and landis tyne.

Thairfoir I think it is ane greit folie
for to mak onye conqueis wrangouſlie
Syne wait not gif thay bruikit lang ȝame ſell
and quha ſall bruikit efter can not tell
To conqueis lairge ſum hes greit wrangis wrocht
and put thame ſell In danger of ȝe hell
and in ſchort tyme *ȝair* conqueis turne to nocht.

I counſell all thairfoir to be content
of Iuſt conqueis with ane ſufficient rent
Quha hes maiſt land is not ȝe beſt at eis
Quha mekill hes the ma ȝai haue to pleis
and with monye *ȝair* deidis ſalbe ſpyit
It is not beſt ane heiche eſtait to cheis
The gretest ar with monyest Invyit.

Sum hes bene greit and fallin fra hie eſtait
The gretest now may gang the ſamyn gait
And thay crab god in thair governament
Monye ar now that hes aneuch of rent
ȝit to get land and geir thay neuer reſt
Thair gridie hairtis can neuer be content
Lyike as ȳis warld and thay ſould euer leſt.

ȝit I doe not forbid alluterlie
To mak conqueis ſa It be done Iuſtlie
first for to mak thame ſelf ane honeſt lyife
To help ȳair bairnis freindis and wyfe
And as thay may the pŭire to help hes neid
Syne weill provyide ȳat ȳair follow na ſtryif
for ȳair conqueis efter that thay be deid.

All ȝe that hes bene gevin to gredines
of all ȝour vniuſt conqueis mak redres
And It reſtoir to thame it did belang
and think thair is ane god to puneis wrang
At quhome of our miſdeidis aſk mercie
for ſumtyme ȝe fra land and geir ſall gang
In all ȝour workes remember ȝe man die.

S. R. M.

This taill is trew & ſurer nor ye baſs
Malorum radix Cupiditas.

O lord.

xxx.] 38

O Lord our ſin hes done the tein
That plagit thus hes this countrie
I trow wes neuer harde nor ſein
In Scotland greter miſerie
Greit euill Into this land we ſie
As ſlauchter heirſchip thift and reif
Deſtructioun of all policie
and all maner of maiſt miſcheif.

Now warldlie wiſdome is diſſait
and falſet hauldin policie
Richt few from gyle can now debait
Sa greit is the hypocreſie
Sum will speik fair and freindfullie
for proffeit wald diſſaue *ȝair* brother
Sa ryff is Infidelitie
Ane kinſman ſcant may trow ane other.

Amang the lordis ſyne the greit ſtryif
Miſreull in all this regioun
Quhilk hes garrit monye loiſe *ȝair* lyfe
and troublit Burges and Barroun
Craftiſmen and co*m*mounis ar put doun
Be thift reif and co*n*tinŭall weir
Neir herreit is o*ur* principall toun
Our m*er*chandis daylie waiſtand geir.

All this is for our pŭniſchment
Becaus o*ur* god we will not knaw

Ay brekand his co*m*mandement
Lyik as of him we ſtŭid na aw
Monye ar goddis word will ſchaw
That ar far co*n*trar in thair deidis
and cŭiris not agane the law
To tak that onye man poſſeidis.

Fra ſum is taine bayth houſs and land
Wrangouslie as the maner ſchawis
Quhome doing wrang thay neuer fand
Bot for all cryme will byide the lawis
Bayth of thair deidis and thair ſawis
ȝit ar thay ſpoilȝit of thair rent
Quha hes this done ye greit god knawis
quha graunt thame grace for to repent.

Sum hes thair place brint in ane gleid
Thair guddis ſpŭilȝit halallie
Thair ſeruandis ſlaine ſum brint to deid
Thair ſelfis taine vncourteouſlie
and hauldin in Captiŭitie
Quha wald haue for ane miſſiue bill
obeyit the auctoritie
and cu*m*mit at my lord Regentis will.

Alace It is ane cairfull caice
That o*u*r lordis can not aggrie
Quhilk for to doe gif thay had grace
Wald ſtanche this greit Iniquitie
Ane thing *yair* is yat trowbillis me
Thocht ſum wald faine mak gud concord

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ȝit ay for ane thair is twentie
To hound mutine and ſaw diſcord.

Bot we ſould rather all lament
Thir plages perturbing ws ſa ſair
and of our ſinnis ws repent
With firme purpois to ſyne no mair
Syne pray to god bayt*h* lait and air
To tak fra ws this cruell ſcŭrge
and for his m*er*cie stainche o*ur* cair
and of all weir this countrie purge.

My lordis all that are diuydit
Could ȝe aggrie It wer ȳe beſt
and gar this realme be godlie gydit
all thing to be with wiſdome dreſt
Then Better micht ȝe put to reſt
This land that now is furth of ordo*ur*
and thame releif that ar oppreſt
The theiffis ſtainche and reull ȳe bordo*ur*.

Sen ȝe ar of ane natioun all
Ilkane of other haue pitie
ȝe wait not ȝit quhat may befall
Sic chance hes bene richt haiſtallie
may gar ȝow think that vnitie
ſall to ȝow all be profitabill
and neidfull that ȝe freindis be
ȝe ken our court is neuer ſtabill.

Quha euer get the vpper hand
of thair rewaird thay knaw na thing

Nor ȝit how lang that thay ſall ſtand
To haue the reull of Quein or king
And ſpeciallie quhen thay ar ȝoung
Thairfoir ȝe ſould tak richt gud gaird
of leſtand feid ȝe on ȝow bring
vncertane ſyne of ȝour rewaird.

O lord ſic grace ſend to ws heir
all Scottismen for to aggrie
Ilkane to brŭik thair land and geir
That thame p*er*tenis richteouslie
Syne p*er*fyte Iuſtice we may ſie
In courtis conſiſtorie and Seſſioun
Craftiſmen and co*m*mounis may peceablie
Thair leving win without oppreſſioun.

S. R. M.

Quhen I haue done conſider
this warldis Vanitie
Sa brukill & sa ſlidder
ſo full of miſerie
Then I remember me
that heir thair is no rest
thairfoir apperantlie
to be mirrie is best.

Let ws be blyithe & glaid
My freindis all J pray

xxxi.]

To be penseif and sad
na thing it helpe ws may
Thairfoir put quyite away
all hevines of thocht
thocht we murne ny^t & day
Jt will availl ws nocht —

It will not be our ſorrow
that will stope goddis hand
to stryike bayth evin & morrow
bayth on the ſie & land
Sen nane may it gainestand
let ws all be content
to vnderlye the wand
of goddis puniſhment.

Quhat god pleſis to doe
accept it thankfullie
quhat paine he put ws to
Receave it patientlie
and gif that we wald be
relevit of our paine
for ſin aſk god mercie
offend him not againe.

Gif we will mak murning
sould be for our offence

And not that god dois bring
on ws for violence
for ane dyuers pretence
for sum he will puneis
to prove thair patience
& sum for thair greit miſs.

Sen first the warld bigane
thair hes bene troubill ay
for puniſhment of man
& sall quhill domiſday
and sen we may not stay
quhat god pleis doe ws till
quhat he will on ws lay
receave it with gud will

For god will ay sum ſcurge
quhill that ye warld tak end
fra ſyne the warld to purge
will ay ſum plaigis send
Bot quha will lyife amend
& preis to ſin no mair
then god will him defend
fra euerlasting cair.

Zit plainlie I conclude
Jntill all wardlines
na thing for man ſa gude
as leſum mirrines
for thair is na ritches
ſa lang his lyife can lenth
conſerue him fra ſeiknes
and keip him in his ſtrenthe.

Thairfoir with trew Intent
Let ws at god aſk grace
Our sinnis to repent
Quhill we haue tyme & ſpace
Syne bring ws to that place
quhair ioy is euermoir
and ſie god face to face
Jn his eternall gloir.

S. Richart maitland
of Lethingtoun.

Loue vertew over all, and all vyces flie
Wickednes hait / alwayiſs gudnes Imbrace
Remove rancour / and ay keip cheritie
Proudnes deteſt / Invy fra ȝe far chaiſe

Gredines neuer let it in the tak place
Be honorable and weill credence keip
Beſines not ſleuth havand tyme and ſpace
Trewlie ſerue god and als for ſinnis weip.
Thir 8 lynes ȝe may begin at
ony nŭik ȝe will and reid
bakwart or fordwart and
ȝe ſall find the lyike ſente*n*ce
and meter.
S. R. M.

Sinneris repent that ȝe haue ſpent
ȝour tyme In wickednes
Bot now be bent with trew Intent
To leiff In godlines.

ȝour lyiffis mend and not offend
ȝour gratious god na mair
Think on the end and how ȝe ma*n* wend
Away naiked and bair.

Thairfoir ask grace q*uhi*'ll ȝe haue ſpace
at god for ȝour greit miſs
Sin fra ȝow chaice / preiſs to ȝe place
q*uhai*r ay is Ioy and bliſs.

ȝo*ur* god ay feir, folie forbeir
on vertew follow aye
pryidfull no*ch*t be / vse not lie
advyiſs weill quhat ȝe ſay.

Keip ay kyndnes and faythfulnes
To ȝour freindis Ilkane
hait gredines and doubilnes
vnder truſt diſſaue nane

Leif modeſtlie / luiſ honeſtie
vſe not in ſin to ly
nane In ȝow ſie / crudelitie
Ir malice nor Invy.

Love god ay beſt / all ſin deteſt
and fals ypocreſie
Loŭf pece and reſt / and nane moleſt
bot leif in cheritie.

S. R. M.

Mair miſchevous and wicked warld
nor thair is now ſaw nane I trow
the countrie throw is quyte our harld
Now in this trouboulous tyme.

Lowthane q*uhair* ſumtyme hes bene
maiſt policie / tranquillitie
greit ſŭirtie for king and Quene
befoir ȳis troublous tyme.

Be me*n* of weir is waiſtit haill
With thift and reif weir and miſcheif
gretar releif in Liddiſdaill
Now in this troublous tyme.

The toun q*uhai*rin to duell wes beſt
Withouttin feir Ritcheſt of geir
With men of weir richt fair oppreſt
now in this troublous tyme

Thairfoir all men be now of gud will
and faſt ȝow preiſs to mak gud peace
Think tyme to ceiſs Scottis bluid to ſpill
now in this troublous tyme

And ſen ſum abſtine*n*ce is taine
na tyme o*ur*ſie bot biſſie be
This haill countrie to mak at ane
and ſtainche ȳis troublous tyme.

That It be ſa, we hairtlie pray
To god abŭif for Chriſtis lŭif
and to remŭif ȳis plaig away
And ȳis miſchevous troublous tyme.

S. R. M.

Ane contrapoyſoŭn to the Ballat falſlie intitulit the properteis of gud Wemen.

xxxv.] 43

Quha dewlie wald decerne
the nature of gud wemen
Or quha wald wis or zairne
that cŭmlie clan to ken
he hes greit neid I ſay indeid
of toungis ma then ten
that pleſant ſort ar all confort
and mirrines to men.

The Wyseſt thing of wit
that euer nature wrocht
quha can fra purpoſe flit
bot fikilnes of thocht
Wald ȝe now wis ane erthlie blis
ſolace gif ze haue socht
ane marchandice of gretest price
that euer ony bocht.

The brichtest thing but baill
that euer creat bein
the lustiest & leill
the gayest & best gein

the thing fairest with langest lest
from all canker maist clein
the trimmest face with gudlie grace
that lichlie may be ſein.

The blythest thing in bour
the bonyest in bed
plesant at euerie hour
& eithe for to be sted
Ane Innocent plaine & patent
with craftines oncled
ane ſimpill thing sueit & bening
for deir nocht to be dred.

To man obedient
evin lyik ane willie wand
bayth faythfull & feruent
ay reddie at command
thay luif maist leill thocht men doe feill
and ſchaikis oft of hand
Quhair anis thay loue thay not remoue
Bot steidfastlie they stand.

And ry^t^lie

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And richtlie to compair
ſcho is ane turtill trew
hir fedderis ar richt fair
& of ane hevinlie hew
Ane luifing wicht bayt fair & bricht
gud properteis anew
freind with delyte fa but diſpyit
quha lovis hir sall not rew —

Suppoſe ſcho ſeme offendit
quhen men dois hir constraine
that fault is sone amendit
hir mynde is so humaine
Sho is content gif men repent
thair fault & turne againe
Sho hes no guyle nor subtill vyile
hir pathis ar ay plaine.

Ane lyife full of delyite
gif ze zour dayis wald drie
Jn pastyme maist perfyite
Gif that ze list to be
Jn gud estait bayth air & lait

gif ze wald leif or die
with wemen deill it is trew I tell
zeis luik I sall not lie.

Gif onye fault thair be
alace men hes the wyit
that gevis sa gouketlie
sic rewleris onperfyite
sould haue the blame & beir y^e^ ſchame
thocht thay wemen bakbyit
wer thay wittie wemen wald be
ane happie hairtis delyit.

The properteis perpend
of euerie warldlie wicht
sa comlie nane ar kend
as is a ladye bricht
plesand in bed bowſum & red
ane daintie day and nicht
ane helsum thing ane hairtis lyking
gif men could reull yame richt.

Quhen god maid all of nocht
he did yis weill declair

xxxv.]

the last thing that he wrocht
it wes ane woman fair
Jn workes we ſie ye last to be
maist plesand & preclair
ane help to man god maid hir than
quhat will ze I say mair.

The papingo in hew exceidis birdis all
the turtill is maist trew
the pawne but peregall
zit neuertheles ȝe may confes
wemen is worthe thame all
fair, sueit, plesand, trew, meik, constant,
without all bitter gall.

Considder & behauld,
Jngrat, vnthankfull man
Repeit the poetis auld
& reid thame gif thow can
thair thou sall find les thou be blind
the Vertewis of wemen
with heich Ingyne how muſes nyne
all ſcience first began.

Minerue ane Woman was
quha wiſdome did Inuent
of greikis namit pallas
& from the hevin wes sent
to leir men wit, that wantit it
& in thair hairtis it prent
to wemen than say quhat ze can
sic giftis first wes lent.

The wyiſe ceres alſo
did first Inuent the corne
& mony thouſand mo
wer mortell wemen borne
ȝit for thair meid & thair gud deid
the poetis all hes ſworne
to thame to pray as goddis ay
& worſchip yame but ſcorne.

Jesabell wicked was
sa was achab hir king
curst wes herodias
Dalila did maling
will ze thairfoir withouttin moir

all wemennis gloir doun thring
Be that same way wemen may say
that men ar worthe na thing.

For suithlie of man kynd
ma wicked may be called
then of the wemen stryinde
& worſs ane hundreth fauld
quha will tak heid & dewlie reid
the wryte & storeis auld
thocht sum do faill to wyite thame all
J think ze be to bauld.

Quhair ȝe can ane me ſchaw
of wemen wicked bein
J anſueir I doe knaw
of gud wemen fiftein
Go serche yame out withouttin dout
ze sall thame find be dein
gif I wald lie, ȝour selfis may ſie
the sampillis may be sein.

Did not the virgine myilde
that Bliſsed bird marie

Bring furth to ws ane chylde
quha did ws sanctifie
& Debora rewlit Iuda
with spreit of prophecie
Quhen men wes sueir & durst not steir
bot lurkit lidderlie.

The bliſsed Suſanna
wes flour of womanheid
the prophites anna
knew christ first as we reid
that bousteous bairne proud Oliphern
gud Iudith garrit him bleid
ane woman than but force of man
saifit the toun at neid.

Hester that lustie Quene
saifit the peopill all
Abigaal the ſchene
saifit hir man naball
Mical his wyife keipt dauids lyife
quhen saul did for him call
& monye may as I heir say
hes saifit men fra thrall.

Quhen the canarianis
in strang prisoun wes set
inclosit be Spartanis
& could na succour get
then thair sueit wyfis hasart thair lyfis
& fred thame fra that net
chaingit thair weid baid in thair steid
for trewluif hes no let.

honest lucretia
wes flour of chastitie
& prudent porcia
lamp of fidelitie
of trew constance but Variance
perle wes Penelope
of loue maist leill that neuer did faill
exempill wes Thisbe.

The fair Cornelia
wes Ieme of eloquence
Prudent aſpasia
excellit in sapience
Socrates wyiſe thocht na dispryis

Quha sa in luif is trew & plaine
he salbe luifit weill againe
Men may say quhat euer thay pleis
in mutuall loue is mekill eis.

Arbuthnat.

Ceiſs hairt and trowbill me no moir
and lat alaine all panſivnes
And rander to thy maker gloir
ather of pleſour or distres
Content thy ſelf with ſobernes
and put thy traiſt in god alone
forȝet this warldis wratchidnes
and ſie for it thoŭ mak no mone.

Sen god thy Souuerane hes the ſend
Into this vaile of miſerie
Amang the reſt thy tyme to ſpend
quhill it him pleis to call on the
Receave his giftis quhat euer thay be
ſtand ſtill q*uhai*r euer he dois the place
Worke thy vocatioun ſteidfaſtlie
and rander to thy maker grace.

Grudge not aganis his godlie will
Thocht thou get not thy hairtis deſyire
Accuſe him not bot hauld ȝe ſtill
Leſt thow provoike his michtie yre
Perchaunce the thing thow wald requyire

and frainis fast grauntit to be
Wald rather caſt the in the myire
then from all dainger ſet the frie.

Thy blindit wit can not conſidder
his worke of woſdome & prudence
Thy ſpreit can not controll togidder
His rigour with his pacience
His yre with his beneuolence
His mercie and his Iudgme*n*t richt
Feir him ꝯ*air*foir with reuer*en*ce
Sen thou can not co*n*ceave his micht.

No wardlie thing ſould ꝯe effray
gif thow till him have conscience clein
Thocht it be loiſt or tint the day
quhilk thow had haill and ſound ȝeiſtrein
In hairt Therfoir tak thoŭ na tein
Bot in thy mynd leif onmoleſt
for monye tymes it may be ſein
That ſic thingis cu*m*mis for ꝯe beſt.

Thow nocht Invy thocht wicked men
In warldlie welth doe the excell
and thocht thay that ꝯe lord miſken
Into the erthe beir now the bell
Remember that thair is ane hell
q*uhai*r ſinneris all ſalbe forloir
and how the Ioy na toung can tell
Quhilk thow ſall have in hevenis gloir.

Quha sa in luif is trew & plaine
he salbe luifit weill againe
Men may say quhat euer thay pleis
in mutuall loue is mekill eis.

Arbuthnat.

Ceiß hairt and trowbill me no moir
and lat alaine all panſivnes
And rander to thy maker gloir
ather of pleſour or distres
Content thy ſelf with ſobernes
and put thy traiſt in god alone
forȝet this warldis wratchidnes
and ſie for it thoŭ mak no mone.

Sen god thy Souuerane hes the ſend
Into this vaile of miſerie
Amang the reſt thy tyme to ſpend
quhill it him pleis to call on the
Receave his giftis quhat euer thay be
ſtand ſtill q*uhai*r euer he dois the place
Worke thy vocatioun ſteidfaſtlie
and rander to thy maker grace.

Grudge not aganis his godlie will
Thocht thou get not thy hairtis deſyire
Accuſe him not bot hauld ȝe ſtill
Leſt thow provoike his michtie yre
Perchaunce the thing thow wald requyire

and frainis fast grauntit to be
Wald rather caſt the in the myire
then from all dainger ſet the frie.

Thy blindit wit can not conſidder
his worke of woſdome & prudence
Thy ſpreit can not controll togidder
His rigour with his pacience
His yre with his beneuolence
His mercie and his Iudgme*n*t richt
Feir him ȝ*air*foir with reuer*en*ce
Sen thou can not co*n*ceave his micht.

No wardlie thing ſould ȝe effray
gif thow till him have conscience clein
Thocht it be loiſt or tint the day
quhilk thow had haill and ſound ȝeiſtrein
In hairt Therfoir tak thoŭ na tein
Bot in thy mynd leif onmoleſt
for monye tymes it may be ſein
That ſic thingis cu*m*mis for ȝe beſt.

Thow nocht Invy thocht wicked men
In warldlie welth doe the excell
and thocht thay that ȝe lord miſken
Into the erthe beir now the bell
Remember that thair is ane hell
q*uhair* ſinneris all ſalbe forloir
and how the Ioy na toung can tell
Quhilk thow ſall have in hevenis gloir.

Think on quhome god dois heir torment
and chaſtiſis quhome he luiffis beſt
That thay may not ſet thair entent
Vpon this warld nor ȝair*on* reſt
Bot rather hait / flie / and deteſt
the roŭt of pryide that ȝair*in* ringis
Eſchewand pleſour as ane peſt
quhilk drawis ȝou from ȝe king of kingis.

Remember als how ſic chaiſtning
Dois ws allŭire o*ur* ſelfis to knaw
The quhippis of the lord feling
Becaus we daylie brak his law
Sic pŭniſching hauldis ws in aw
That we ſtray not over far aſclent
nor with the wicked in ȝoike draw
Quhome in his wraith ȝe lord will ſchent.

Alſo ſic tribulatiouñ
Sould the admoniſche and mak plaine
That thy chief conſolatiouñ
Into this warld is not certaine
Bot that in heavin it dois remaine
Vnto ȝe quhilk thow ſall pretend
without regaird to triffillis vaine
Lovand ȝe lord quhat euer he ſend.

Stoŭpe then vnder his michtie hand
and the content of his gud will
Thocht thow haue nother geir nor land

XXXVII.]

Think not therfoir he lŭiffis the ill
Bot rather think he dois fulfill
His promeis quhen he dois the bring
Be that ſame trace ȝe heavenis vntill
by quhilk firſt enterit chriſt o*ur* king.

Thocht thow be heir in vncouthe land
and dois the Indignatioun beir
of countrie men quhilk in ane band
conſpyris ſtill to doe the deir
Tak thow thairfoir of thame na feir
ſen thay can not annoy thy ſaull
for in the Scripto*ur* thow may leir
quhen ſumtyme lyik ſufferit Sanct paull.

Gif god vpon thy pairtie ſtand
quhat miſteris the for to tak feir
gif he defend the with his hand
Thy enemeis can not doe deir
This reill this raige this cruell weir
Thocht it a quhyill doe the moleſt
ȝit as thow may in Scriptŭre leir
all thing ſall turne ȝe to the beſt.

In god Thairfoir the confort ay
and quyite ȝis warld for it is vaine
Preis to ȝe place can neuer decay
Seik to the ſait ȝat is certaine
for erthlie ioy can not remaine
and q*uhair* that it is vnperfyte

50 b ⌈xxxvii.

With ſmall pleſour is mekill paine
and doubill dŭill with ſmall delyite.

Sen but all paine pleſo*ur* perfyt
Into this warld can not be found
Sen doulfull dolo*ur* and delyt
Ilkane with other faſt ar bound
Sen our foirfatheris deidlie woŭnd
hes privat men of perfyit Ioy
Quhow lang that thow leſt on this groŭnd
for warldlie geir tak neuer noy.

Thocht god hes not appointit the
to brŭik hono*uris* amang the laif
Ȝet hes ordainit that thow be
ane quhome his ſone Ieſus ſall ſaif
Quhat greater gift than can thow craif
Tha*n* be at ane with ſic ane lord
And that eternall Ioy till haif
quhilk he hes promeſit be his worde.

finis ꝙ Arbuthnatt.

XXXVIII.] 51

Sen that Eine that workis my weilfair
dois no moir on me glance
A thousand sichtis with suelting sobbis sair
dois throw my bowellis lance
J die ȝairning
J leif pyning
woe dois encres
J wax witles
O sindring o wofull doleance.

The day quhen as the fair pairtit me fray
plesour me left also
Quhen that from hir I sinderit wes away
miſchance me hint but ho
J waxit wan, the same hour than
sorrow sensyne
dois still me pyine
O that gudnicht hes causit mekill wo.

Evin as men may the turtill trew persaif
once having loist hir feir
on the dry brainche ay fayᵗfull to yᵉ graif
bewayling perſeueir
So my desyire
kindlit in fyire

51 b [XXXVIII.

dois soir lament
my luif absent
O god gif amour be ane paine to beir.

Neuer in somer the haitt canicŭlar day
so hote with beamis brent
as dois that fyire q^lk^ me devoring ay
hes saull & bodie tint
& neuer a dairt
so persit my hairt
as dois the bolt
quhilk luif me schot
O god cupid gif bitter be thy dint.

As he that suimmis the moir he ettill fast
& to the schoire intend
The moir his febill furie throw windis blast
is bakwart maid to wend
So wors be day
my greif growis ay
the moir I am hurte
the moir I sturte
O cruell love bot deid thow hes none end.

The faithfull meſsinger q^lk^ is the nicht
to luiffaris langorous

Augmentis

XXXVIII.] 52

Augmentis my woe & als the dayis licht
makis me moir dolorous
The day I dwyine
the nicht I pyine
evin eikis my sorrow
wors then the morrow
O god in love gif I be malhourous.

And gif that neid to slumber me constraine
faint throuch melancolie
Vnrest dois walkin me againe
to muſe my miſerie
quhat euer chanche
dois me outtrance
saif fals thinking, in sueit dreming
O dreame maist ſueit gif it war not a lie.

Jn cairfull bed full oft in myne Intent
to twitche I doe appeir
now syide now breist now ſweit mow redolent
of that sueit bodye deir
J stretche my hand
in vaine ernand
my luif is far
& not found nar
O ſcorne of luifaris cupid blind archeir.

Syne quhen the morning with hir mantill grein
opinis the dayis face
with phœbus licht the cairfull thochtis dein
renewis thair wofull raice
my fyrie raige
dois then aggrage
my soir torment
dois moir augment
O gif absence be paine in luifis caice.

So monye starris ar nocht in nichtis sein
nor in drawing colouris
nor scipping froggis amid ye medow grein
as I thocht of dolouris
noy vpon noy
markis to destroy
my wofull lyfe
fechting in stryife
O gif vnhap be found in paramouris.

The day befoir the suddane nichtis chaice
dois not so suiftlie go
Nor hair befoir the ein and grewhoundis face
with speid is careit so
as I with paine
for luif of ane

without remeid
rinnis to the deid
O god gif deid be end of mekill wo.

O goddis hiche gif in the hevin be found
sum band of amitie
J ȝow beseik be movit with my wound
& haue sum Iust pitie
my proper lyif
J hait with stryif
J me foirsaik
for otheris saik
O gif luif causis strainge Inamitie.

Ha now my muſe my soucy & my cair
leif of thy lamenting
Ceis to complaine of miſhap ony mair
end now I ceis to sing
he that can plaine
dois thoill leist paine
soir ar the hairtis
but plaint yat smartis
Silence to dolour is ane nowriſching.

finis.

Sen fortoŭn hes now randerit me ſubiect
and lŭiffis ȝoik ſubdewit hes my neck
I thank my god that to hir am thrall
quha neuer wes of onye vyice ſuſpect
Bot of all vertew choiſe is and elect
And in all bewtie is but peregall
Hir preſentlie I ſerue and euer ſall
And gif ſcho pleſis my ſeruice not reiect
For my rewaird I crave no moir at all.

Sŭmtyme I leifit at libertie at liſt
and thocht I could to lŭiffis force reſiſt
Be cunning craft convoyit with prudence
Bot hir bewtie caiſt in my ein ſic miſt
Hir greit bontie me trappit or I wiſt
That I vnabill am to mak defence
Then ȝeild I me to hir obedience
Thinking that ȝit ſic ſerŭitude is bliſt
To ſerue ane flour of ſic preeminence.

Gif Bewtie had me boŭnd in thrall
and wer overcŭm with luſtis ſenſuall
Then micht I thocht my wiſdome faillit me
Bot ſen hir bontie ſupernaturall
To Bewtie couplit is collaterall
In heicheſt ſtaige of excellent degrie
I traiſt that nane can me accuſe trewlie
gif bewtie bontye and the vertewis all
My tender hairt keip in captiŭitie.

xxxix.] 54

For ſcho to quhome I ſervitour am bound
is ſic as in the erthe can not be found
Ane perles perle and patroun maiſt perfyte
The gle the grace the gloir of all the ground
Maiſt ſueit, maiſt meik, maiſt ſaige, maiſt ſũire, maiſt ſoũnd
Royall Rubie with all riches repleit
Roiſe of renoũn and daſie of delyte
With ſic a lance for to reſſaue a wound
albeit I wis I wait nane will me wyte.

Ane thing thair is that I doe ſoir lament
That for hir ſaik thocht I be daylie ſchent
To ſchaw my paine I dar ſcarſ̃ Interpryiſ̃
Quhen I me anis befoir hir face preſent
All wit and ſpreit that euer wes to me lent
Is me bereft and chainged ſo my guyſ̃
That quhowſoeuer to other I ſeme wyiſ̃
To hir my mynd I can not mak patent
Thocht lyif and deid bayt*h* in hir pleſo*ur* lyis.

Sen Toũnge can not my troubillis then expres
and coũntenance dois failȝie me no les
To get the graice of that ſa gudlie wicht
Wald god ſen ſcho ſic other woſdome hes
My Inward mynd ſcho could perſaue and ges
and all my hairt wer patent in hir ſicht
Then ſould ſcho ken that my lũif wer not licht
Bot of hir honeſt courtes gentilnes
as I deſ̃erue ſcho wald me rander richt.

I knaw otheris hes mair experi*e*nce
In craft of loue and greater eloqŭence
And ſubtellie thair purpoſe can perſew
Bot for leill love, and conſtant p*er*manen*ce*
Inward favo*ur* with honeſt reuerence
Ane hairt enteir q*uhi*lk bayt*h* is traiſt and trew
Moir nor in me thocht all the warld ſcho vew
ſcho ſall not find, I ſpeik with hir licence
few ar found leill thocht loveris be anew.

Then ſen I can na other way declair
my troŭblit hairt to that princes preclair
Bot be my wryte and ſchedull q*uh*ilk I ſend
Heir I beſeik hir Bewtie ſingulair
Have ſum reſpect vnto my daylie cair
Sen onlie ſcho my meladie may mend
And ſen I doe bot honeſtie pretend
Let lŭif meit lŭif of hir I ſeik na mair
and be ſum ſigne let ȝis be to me kend.

Hairt and ſueit lŭiff and onlie maiſtres myne
Craib not thocht I ȝow papeir now propyne
Ane gift ungenand for ȝour excellence
gif I may knaw that ȝour hairt dois Inclyne
Sum better thing ſall follow efter ſyne
Quhilk may be meit for ȝour magnif[ic]ence
As for my ſelf with dew obedience
My ſtrenth my wit my force and haill Ingyne
Heir I doe raunder to ȝour reuerence.

xxxix.]

This poŭre propyne refŭis not I ȝow pray
This ſimpill ſute caſt it not quyte away
Tyme will trye furth quha maiſt trewlie dois mein
Thir gay gallandis with thair dreſs and deray
Thair luif tareis bot for ane nicht or tway
Be that be paſt thay will forȝet it clein
Thocht I wald lie ȝe ſampillis may be ſein
Maiſt feruent luiff dois ſoneſt ay decay
Advyiſs ȝow now the flour of feminine.

ȝit howſoeuer heirin ȝe coŭnſell tak
Quhidder ȝe prayſe my purpoſe or ȝe lak
My hairt alwayis to luif ȝow ma*n* proceid
Thocht ȝe be daingerous and beir abak
and of my miſerie ȝoŭr mirth wald mak
That I ȝow luif I ſall ſchaw ay Indeid
Sum houpe is ȝit that my ſ*e*ruice ſall ſpeid
Without ȝe quhilk I wait I am bot wraik
With wiſdome work now waill of woma*n*heid.

With licence then my lŭif I tak my leif
fering with langer purpoſe ȝow to greif
for new taking god will ſend tyme and place
Tryall of treuth my permane*n*ce ſall preif
With reuthfull hairt gif ȝe wald me releif
Then wer my paine turnit in perfyte peace
Bot howſoeuer with me chancis ȝe caſe
A thowſand tymes quhidder I die or leif
I me co*m*mend vnto ȝour nobill grace.

finis —

55 b [XL.

Ane ballat to be songe with the tuine of *luifer come to luifeiris dore &c.*

O bliſsed bird brichtest of all
O flour of femenein
O perles perle but peregall
o lustie lady schein
Crab not gif I to mynde doe call
the paine that I sustein
Cast me not quyite away.

Quho so ȝour bewtie wald behauld
must neidis in ȝow delyit
Bot I regaird mair monifauld
ȝour properteis perfyit
ȝour bontie quhilk can not be tauld
ȝour Vertewis ar so gryit
Have pitie I ȝow pray.

J am ane prenteis bot in luif
and lak experience
bot gif ȝe list my lawtie pruif

XL.] 56

and try my permanence
my constant hairt sall neuer remuif
from ȝour obedience
haue pitie I ȝow pray.

J grant thair is na gift in me
ȝour fauour to procuire
J knaw ȝour greit excellencie
all hairtis dois alluire
zit since I am be destanie
becum ȝour seruituire
haue pitie I ȝow pray.

For quhat in me can not be found
throw lak & Indigence
that same in ȝow dois moir abound
With richlie opulence
let ȝour fulnes my faultis refound
& faillis recompence
hauc pitie I ȝow pray.

So nature hes ordanit wyiſlie
that in all kynde of thing
perfyite the vnperfyte supplie

56 b [XL.

and to perfectioun bring
sua maistres may ȝe doe with me
gif it be with ȝour lyking
have pitie I you pray.

ȝour gud behaving to rehers
J can not thocht I wald
zour graces greit to put in Vers
J dar not be so bauld
for my Ingyine can no way pers
so far a thousand fauld
Haue pitie I ȝow pray.

Jt semis to me quhen ȝe appeir
amang ye madinnis all
ȝe ar lyik phœbus in his spheir
amid ye starnis small
Quha with his glistering bemis cleir
thair brichtnes causis fall
haue pitie I ȝow pray.

Jt semis to me quhen ȝe reſort
amang thir ladyis schein
ȝe haue the countenance & port

of diana the quein
Quhen with the nymphes scho dois sport
amang the leiffis grein
haue pitie I ȝow pray.

Jt semis to me quhair ȝe repair
amang thir ladyis quhyte
ȝe ar as in ane gairdein fair
ane lillie of delyte
Ane roiſe maist plesand & preclair
ane Ianetflour perfyite
have pitie I ȝow pray.

Fra ȝe appeir anis in my sicht
all other forme dois faid
J think ȝow lyik the golde so bricht
& all the rest bot leid
thay ar bot darknes of the nicht
& ȝe the morning reid
haue pitie &c.

Zour goldin hair lyik phœbus schein
quhair euer ȝe go dois glance
zour gudlie face ȝour colour clein
ȝour cumlie countenance

57 b [XL.

zour plesand twincling cristall ein
dois cast me in ane trance
Have pitie I 3ow pray.

3our smyland seimlie mouth is sueit
lyik rosis redolent
with vermell lippis of balme repleit
3our tonge most eloquent
3our teith lyik yuore baine poleit
or perle of orient
Have pitie I 3ow pray.

Quhat toûge can tell 3our bewteis all
& properteis preclair
3our bodye brent 3our middill small
3our fingeris quhyte & fair
one thing I wait in erthe thair sall
none be found 3our compair
Have pitie &c.

Now sen zour giftis ar so greit
that 3e can haue no peir
Bewar 3e steinzie thame not quyt
with crueltie seueir
do not into my duill delyt
that comptis 3ow so deir.
haue pitie &c.

XL.] 58

To knaw the bewteis in 3ow bein
can not ane rude Ingyine
Ane lurdane spreit can not attein
to 3our graces divyne
bewar thairfoir o ladye schein
cast not 3our perle to suyne
haue pitie I 3ow pray.

Beistow 3our giftis then I pray
on sic as can thame ſie
or at the list on sic as may
esteme thame worthelie
So sall I houpe that 3it sum day
3our reuthe sall rew on me
haue pitie I 3ow pray.

Not willing longer 3ow molest
J bid 3ow hairt Adiew
God gif 3ow grace to cheis the best
sen monye 3ow persew
one thing I wait amang the rest
ze sall me find most trew
Quhill lyife doe in me byide.

58 b [XLI.

Sen ȝe so far haue perſit my thocht
quhidder ȝe me accept or nocht
my myinde sall neuer ſlyide.
finis.

O Wratched waird / O fals feinȝit fortouñ
O heiche vnhappie / O cruell deſtanie
O clein miſtemperit conſtellatioun
O evill aſpect In my nativitie
O waird ſiſteris quhat ellis ȝow at me
That all dois work this contrar my Intent
Quhilk is the caus that I murne and lament.

All thing dois qŭyte proceid aganis my will
Bayth hevin and erthe ar contrair me co*n*iŭrit
I luif the gud and cu*m*merit am with ill
With wicked bait I daylie am allurit
To cheis my lyif I can not be aſſurit
Now till ane thing now till ane other bent
Quhat mervell is thocht I mŭrne and lame*n*t.

My hairt dois love the trew religiouñ
and ȝe trew god wald trewlie ſ*e*rue but dout
Bot atheiſme and ſuperſtitioun
hes ſo me now enŭironit about
That ſcantlie can I find q*uhair* to get out
Betuixt ȝir twa I am ſo daylie rent
Quhat m*er*vell is thocht I murne & lame*n*t.

XLI.] 59

Vnder my god I wald obey my prince
Bot ciuill weir dois ſo troŭbill that caiſe
That ſcairſlie wait I quhome to reuere*n*ce
Quhat till eschew or quhat for till embrace
Our nobillis now ſa fikill ar alace
This day thay ſay ȝe morne thay will repent
Quhat m*er*vell is thocht I mŭrne & lament.

Faine wald I leif in concord and in peace
Without diŭiſioun rancour or debait
Bot now alace In euerie land and place
The fyire of haitred kindlit is ſo hait
That cheritie doeth ring in none eſtait
Thocht all concur to hurt ȝe Innocent
Quhat mervell is thocht I mŭrne and lame*n*t.

I hait thraldome ȝit man I binge and bek
and Iouk and nod ſum patroun for to pleis
I luif fridome ȝit man I be ſubiect
I am compellit to flatter with my fais
I me torment ſum other for till eiſs
Quha of my travell ſcantlie is content
Quhat mervell is thocht I mŭrne and lame*n*t.

I luif nathing bot poŭre ſimplicitie
and to diſſembill man my tounge aſſyile
The plaine hie path is maiſt pleſand to me
ȝit ſumtyme man I arme me with a wyile
Or doe I not men ſall me ſone begyile

firſt me deſave ſyne lauch quhen I am ſchent
Quhat mervell is thocht I murne and lament.

I luif larges and liberalitie
3it povertie to ſpend dois mak me ſpair
I hait avarice and prodigalitie
To git ſum geir 3it man I haue ſum cair
In vanitie ſyne man I it outwair
Wone be ane wratch and into waiſtrie ſpent
Quhat mervell is thocht I mŭrne and lament.

I luif the vertew honeſt Chaſtitie
To Bawdiſche bourdes 3it ma*n* I oft gif eir
To ſatiſfie ane fleſchlie companie
Lyik ruffian I man me ſumtyme beir
In venus ſcŭill I ma*n* ſum leſſoun leir
Gif I wald comptit be courtes and gent
Quhat m*er*vell is thocht I murne & lame*n*t.

I Luif delyite and wrappit am in wo
I luif pleſo*ur* and plungit am in paine
I liſt to reſt 3it man I ryid and go
and quhen I liſt to flie I ma*n* remaine
With warldlie cair a gentill hairt is ſlaine
I feill the ſmart and dar not mak my plent
Quhat mervell is thocht I murne and lament.

I hait flatterie and into wordes plaine
and v*n*affectit langage I delyit

3it mon I

XLI.]

3it man I leir to flatter gloiſe and faine
Quhodder I liſt to ſpeik or 3it to wryte
Or ellis men ſall not coũnt me worth a myite
I ſalbe raknit rude or negligent
Quhat mervell is thocht I murne and lament.

Scorning I hait 3it man I ſmyll and ſmirke
Quhen I the mokkis of other men behauld
3ea oftymes man I lauche ſuppose I yrke
Quhen bitterlie thair taũntingis thay haue tauld
And ſumtyme als quhidder I nil or wald
ane ſcorne for ſcorne to gif I man tak tent
Quhat mervell is thocht I mũrne and lamẽt.

I luif modeſt ſober Ciũilitie
mixt with gentill courtes haimlines
Bot ather man I vſe ſcurrilitie
or ellis ſic ſtrainge and vncouth fremmidnes
That I wait not how to mak mirrines
Nor be quhat mein with men me to acquent
Quhat mervell is thocht I murne and lament.

With Temperance I wald vſe meit and drink
and hes all ſurfet banket in diſpyit
And 3it at feiſt and banket man I wink
And with thame hant quhair I haue no delyit
I vſe ye eũill and hes not all the wyit
Thocht bodye bow 3it dois the hairt diſſent
Quhat mervell is thocht I murne and lamẽt.

All Coiſtlie claythis I compt not worth ane prein
Quhilk dois bot foſter pryide and vanitie
ȝit dar I not in co*mm*oun place be ſein
les I be clothit ſumquhat gorgeouſlie
And be I not then men ſall talk of me
And call me ather wratche or Indigent
Quhat mervell is thocht I murne and lame*n*t.

With hairt and mynd I lŭif humilitie
and pauchtie pryide richt fair I doe deteſt
Bot with ȝe heiche ȝit man I heichlie be
Or with that fort I ſall not ſit in reſt
This warld hes maid the proverb manifeſt
Quha is ane ſcheip ȝe wolf will ſone him hent
Quhat mervell is thocht I murne and lame*n*t.

With patience I wald richt faine o*u*rcŭm
and other me*nn*is Infirmiteis Indŭire
Bot then am I coŭntit ane betie bŭm
And all men thinkis a play me to Iniŭre
My ſufferance to vyice dois thame allŭire
The mair I thoill the mair I me torme*n*t
Quhat m*er*vell is thocht I murne and lament.

I love Silence and Taciturnitie
and in few woordes wald my purpois tell
ȝit ſumtyme man I wordes multiplie
and mak my toung to ring as dois ane bell
With wilfull folk I man bayt*h* cry and ȝell
or ȝeild to thame and quyte ȝe argument
Quhat m*er*vell is &c.

And haittis all ſchaimles gloriofitie
and me delyt in modeſt ſchamfaſtnes
ȝit ſall I not be coũntit worthe ane flie
Without I ſpeik of all mater be ges
gloir and brag out and tak ane face of breſs
na thing miſknaw vnder ye firmament
Quhat m*er*vell is thocht I murne & lament.

To chairge to aſk to put ane man to paine
I wald be courtes gentill and diſcreit
Bot quhill I on ane ganand tyme remaine
I am ay ſseruit at the latter meit
And ſum other is placit in my ſait
That thocht nocht ſchame for to be Impudent
Quhat m*er*vill is thocht I murne and lament.

I luif the vertew callit gratitude
and lyik for lyik I ȝairne to ȝeild againe
ȝit can I not reſaue bot ill for gud
and thay in quhais dainger I remaine
I can not quyte albeit I wald richt faine
I want all micht na power is me lent
Quhat m*er*vell is thocht I murne and lament.

I luif Iuſtice and wald that euerie man
Had ye*a*t q*uhi*lk richtlie dois to him pertene
ȝit all my kin / allya or my clan
In richt and wrang alwayis I man manteine
I man applaud quhen ye*a*i *yair* materis mein
Thocht conſcience doe not *yair*to conſent
Quhat m*er*vell is thocht I murne and lame*n*t.

Sua thocht I luif ȝe richt and not the wrang
ȝit gif ane freindis caus ſall cum in hand
It to aſſiſt I man bayth ryide and gang
and as ane ſcoller leir to vnderſtand
That it is not repute vyice in this land
for wrange to rander wrange equiualent
Quhat m*er*vell is thocht I murne and lament.

Of trew freindis faine wald I haue ſum ſtoir
With thame the leig of amitie to bind
Bot thocht I ſeik amang ane hundreth ſcoir
ane faithfull freind now ſcantlie ſall I find
That is not licht lyik weddercok in wind
It is thocht vyice now to be permanent
quhat mervell is thocht I murne and lame*n*t.

In poetrie I pleis to pas the tyme
Quhen cairfull thochtis with ſorrow failȝeis me
Bot gif I mell with meter or with ryme
With raſcall rymo*uris* I ſall reknit be
Thay ſall me als burding with monye lie
In chairging me with ȝ*a*t q*uhi*lk neuer I me*n*t
Quhat m*er*vell is thocht I murne & lament.

I wald travell and ydilnes I hait
gif I could find ſum gud vocatioun
Bot all for nocht in vaine lang may I wait
Or I get honeſt occupatioun
Letteris ar lichtleit in o*ur* natioun

for lerning now is nather lyif nor rent
Quhat mervell is thocht I murne and lamẽt.

And ſchortlie now at ane worde to conclude
I think this warld ſa wrappit in miſcheif
That gud is ill and ill compted is gud
All thing I ſie dois bot augmẽt my greif
I feill the woe and can not ſie releif
The lordis plaige throwout ye warld is went
Quhat mẽrvell is thocht I murne and lament.

finis q̄ Arbuthnet.

Religioun now is reknit as ane fabill
and feir of god is comptit fooliſchnes
Thair is no man to leif now Iudgit abill
Bot cairles cativis full of cũrſednes
Ane wicked lyif is Iudgit welthines
So vyce vertew and vertew is thocht vyce
O leving god this chainge is wonder nyce.

Remorſs for ſyne is thocht bot fooliſch feir
And fleſchlie loving Iudgit libertie
God is forȝet for gredines of geir
All houpe of hevin is hauldin vanitie
And hellis paine is comptit poetrie
Swa vyce vertew and vertew is thocht vyce
O leving lord this chainge is wonder nyce.

Vaine Voluptie is thocht welth and weilfair
and fekill ritches thocht felicitie
Gud exerceis is thocht torme*n*t and cair
And honeſt labour comptit miſerie
And beſt eſtait ay ydill for to be
Sua vyice vertew and vertew is thocht vyice
O leving god this chainge is wounder nyice.

Self luif is thocht a vertew ſouerane
and privat proffeit prudent policie
for co*m*moun weill travell labo*u*r or paine
is comptit bot ane foliſch fantaſie
flatterie prevaillis treuth makis Inimitie
Sua vyce vertew and vertew is thocht vyce
O leving lord this chainge is wonder nyce.

Treuth is Iudgit bairnlie ſimplicitie
and doubilnes of woſdome hes ȝe name
Meiknes is thocht Puſillanimitie
And vtterance is to forȝet all ſchame
And merines is all men to defame
Sua vyice vertew and ve*r*tew is thocht vyce
O leving lord this chainge is wonder nyce.

Craft and diſſait is callit quick Ingyne
And fals ſemblance is callit courteſie
He that can beſt his ny*ch*tbour vndermyne
Is hauldin ſchairpe weill workand & wittie
And blak falſet is namit ſutteltie.

XLII.] 63

Sua vyice vertew and *ver*tew is thocht vyice
O leving lord this chainge is wounder nyce.

Ferſnes and yre is callit kein courage
and patience is coũntit cowardnes
Vaine braggis and boiſt is reknit vaſſalege
and wode folie is hauldin hardines
Bot modeſtie is termit ſimpilnes
Swa vyce vertew and vertew is thocht vyce
O leving lord this chainge is wonder nyce.

Filthie lucre is coũntit honeſt ſchift
and oppreſſioun is thocht bot princes play
Maiſtreiſs and reif is gyding and gud thrift
fraud In Iuſtice is thocht craftie delay
ane thing to think ane other ay to ſay
Is coũntit now for vertew and na vyce
O leving lord ȝis chainge is wonder nyce.

Knawledge of god is curioſitie
and woſdome ſtandis in prophanitie
Grave coũntenance is glorioſitie
Diſſolute lyfe is thocht humanitie
Gud fellowſchip ſtandis in vanitie
Sua vyce vertew / and *ver*tew is thocht vyce
O leving lord ȝis chainge is wonder nyce.

Now filthie ſpeich is thocht purpoſe moſt meit
and hourdome hauldin is ane prettie ſport
pudicitie is countit lak of ſpreit

And ruffianis now gettis beſt report
All grave purpoſe is triſt and but confort
Swa vyce vertew and vertew is thocht vyce
O leving lord ȝis chainge is wounder nyce.

Waiſting is coũntit liberalitie
and gredines is thocht ane gudlie gaine
Honeſt ſpending is prodigalitie
ay greteſt coiſt vpon thingis vaine
And that is ſocht q*uhai*rof ȝe fleſche is faine
Sua vyice vertew and vertew is thocht vyce
O leving lord this chainge is wonder nyce.

Pryde now is coũntit magnanimitie
and lawlines is comptit baſs courage
Trew moniſſing dois mak Inimitie
And feinȝit favo*ur* takkis vp ȝe wage
Trew preiching makis ȝe wicked mair to raige
The mair the[y] heir ȝe mair thay rin in vyce
O leving lord this chainge is wonder nyce.

Quhen I behauld ȝe warld thus rin areird
and ſeis how vyce dois all vertew ſuppreſs
Then I accũſe my fortoun and my weird
Throuch paſſioun and fleſchlie febilnes
Bot quhen I luik ȝe deipis bothũmles
Of goddis ſecreit then I clein recant
And cry for mercy and my crymes grant.

For I ſould not my deſtanie deſpyte
as ethnik autho*u*r*is* full of Ignorance
Nor gif my weird and my wanhap the wyite
nor of my birth warie the Influence
I ken richt weill nothing cu*m*mis be chance
for fortoun is nocht bot ane fabill vaine
Inuentit be philoſopho*u*r*is* prophaine.

Bot euerie thing that in this warld dois fall
Dois cŭm be goddis michtie providence
And be that ſpreit ſuperceleſtiall
Be his divine and ſupreme ſapience
Thocht it exceid our dull Intelligence
of euerie thing ȝe reſſoun till Invent
ȝit of our p*ar*t we aucht to ſtand content.

And thocht ȝe warld be holie ſet on ill
ȝit aucht we not to grudge nor to repyne
Bot on the lord depend and on his will
Repoſing ws on his power devyne
Quha is his awin he will thame neuer tyne
Bot caus all thing to thame work for ȝe beſt
on this promeiſs we ſould repoſe and reſt.

For erdlie Ioy then ſould we not attend
Erd is no place of our felicitie
Welth in this warld is not o*u*r finall end
nor troubill heir is not o*u*r miſerie
O*u*r trew rewaird na*ȝer* ȝe ein can ſie
nor eiris heir nor to the hairt is knawin
Quhilk o*u*r lord god prepairis for his awin.

In warld the prince of darknes hes Impyire
and gud men thoillis tribulatioun
Bot ſic tryall lyik ane chainging fyire
Then to prepair to thair ſaluatioun
To walkin thame in thair vocatioun
and moniſche thame thair miſſis to amend
and to remember on the latter end.

For Trowbill heir dois teſtifie our ſin
and dois convict ws of Iniqŭitie
Trowbill dois ſchaw the ſtait ȝat we ar in
and dois declair our Imbecillitie
of goddis wraithe it is ane teſtimonie
Aganis ſin and crymes execrabill
Sua to ws troubill is richt proffitabill.

Our conſcience it movis to remoird
Quhen we thairof doe taiſt ȝe bitternes
It makis ws to cleiff vnto ȝe lord
quhen we behauld our foliſche febilnes
Throuch it we hait the warldis wretchidnes
quhen we ſie nothing heir that ſtandis ſtabill
Sua to ws troubill is richt proffitabill.

It garris ws luik vnto the latter end
quhen we ſie not in erd ws to allŭire
It cauſis ws on Providence depend
with patience it drawis till Indŭire
of hevinlie Ioy our houp it makis fŭire
It dois conforme ws vnto Chriſt our heid
And leirnis ws to muſe vpon the deid.

And monye other thowſand proffeittis mo
dois ay proceid of perſecutioun
for lak of tyme quhilk I now let oŭrgo
Bot this I gadder in concluſioun
Thocht all this warld rin in confuſioun
ȝit godlie men ſould not be drawin bak
Bot of ye preſent Paine ane Proffeit mak.

Ceiſs then my Saull and trowbill me no moir
And let allaine all paynfull penſeifnes
and rander to thy hevinlie maker gloir
of paine and pleſo*ur* co*n*fort & diſtres
Content thy ſelf with ſimpill ſobernes
and traiſt into the leving lord alaine
And for this warldlie troubill mak na maine.

For but all paine ane pleſs*our* heir perfyit
Into this warld be no wicht may be found
Bot dulfull doloŭr and pleſand delyit
Ilkane with other be the top is bound
And our foirfatheris Adamis deidlie wound
In erd hes privat ws of perfyte Ioy
Quhy ſould we then at troubill ws annoy.

Thocht god haue not in erthe appointit ye
To brŭik worſchip and hono*ur* with the laif
ȝit he will and hes ordanit that thow be
ane quhome his ſone the lord Ieſus ſall ſaif
Quhat gretar gift I pray ye can thow craif

With him he ſall the na gud thing refŭiſs
Deſiſt thairfoir thy fortoun till accuſs.

Deſiſt and ceiſs thy ſelf for to torment
for troubill or for paine terreſtriall
of thy eſtait ſtand quyet and content
Sen erthlie pleſo*ur* is bot beſtiall
Bot lippin for the lyiſe celeſtiall
Repoſe thy ſpreit vpon thys hevinlie Ioy
Vnto the quhilk the lord mot ws co*n*voy.

M. A. Arbuthnot.

Aganis Sclanderous Toungis.

oooooooooo

Gif Biſſie branit bodyis 3ow bakbyit
And of ſum wicked wittis 3e ar Invyit
Quha wald deprave 3o*ur* doingis for dispyit
dispyis thair diveliſche deming and deſyit
for fra that tyme and treuth thair tailles haue tryit
The ſuithe ſall ſchaw it ſelf out to *ȝair* ſchame
And be thair ſpeiche thair ſpyit ſalbe eſpyit
And haue na fayth nor force aganis 3o*ur* fame.

XLIII.] 65

Misknaw thair craft and kyithe not as ȝe kend it
Thair doingis will thair deillingis ſone detect
for gif ȝe freit find fault or be offendit
Thair ſawis to be ſuithe ſum will ſuſpect
Bot gif thair leyis ȝe lichtlie & neglect
and lat thame lie and lak ȝow as thay liſt
fra tyme thay find thair fabillis faill effect
Thay will deny thair deilling and deſiſt.

As furious fluiddis with greter force ay flowis
and ſtarker ſtewin, quhen ſtoppit ar the ſtreamis
and gorgit wateris euer greater growis
and forcet ſyris with greater gleidis out glemis
And ay mair bricht and birning is the bemis
of phœbus face that faſteſt ar reflexit
Sa gud renoŭn quhilk railleris raige repremis
Advancis moir the moir Invyaris vexit.

The moir thay ſpeik the ſoner ar thay ſpyit
The moir thay lie ȝour lak wilbe the les
The moir thay talk the treuth is ſoner tryit
The moir plainlie thair poyſoun thay expres
The les thay caus thair credit to Incres
The moir thay wirk, the les *ȝair* work avancis
The moir thay preis ȝo*ur* prayſes to oppres
The greter of ȝour glorie is the glancis.

Doe quhat ȝe dow detracto*urís* ay will deme ȝow
Quhais craft is to calŭmpniat but caus
Bakbyteris ay be brutis will blaſpheme ȝow
Althocht ȳe contrar all the countrie knawis
And wald ȝe waird ȝow vp betwene twa wais
Ȝit ſo ȝe ſall not from thair ſayingis ſaue ȝow
Bot gif thay ſie ȝe ſuffie of thair ſais
Blaſone thay will how euer ȳe behaif ȝow.

Gif ȝe be ſecreit ſad and ſoliter
Pairtlie thay ſpeik that privelie ȝe play
and gif in publict places ȝe repair
ȝe ſeik to ſie / and to be ſene thay ſay
War ȝe a ſanct, thay ſould ſuſpect ȝow ay
Be ȝe humaine o*ur* hŭmble thay will hald ȝow
gif ȝe be ſtrainge thay eſteme ȝow o*ur* ſtay
And trowis it is ȝe or ellis ſum hes it tauld ȝow.

Gif ȝe be blyithe ȝo*ur* lichtnes thay will lak
Gif ȝe be grave ȝour gravitie is geked
Gif ȝe lyik mŭſick mirth or mirrie mak
Thay ſweir ȝe feill ane ſtring & bownis to brek it
Gif ȝe be ſeik ſum ſlichtis ar ſuſpectit
And all ȝour ſairris callit ſecreit ſŭnȝeis
Dayis thay diſpyte and be ȝe daylie dekit
Perſaue thay ſay the papingo that prŭinȝeis.

Gif ȝe be wyiſs and weill in vertew verſit
Cu*n*ning thay call vncŭmlie for ȝo*ur* kynd
And ſayis It is bot ſlichtis ȝe haue ſcherſit
To cloik the craft q*uhair*to ȝe are inclynd
Gif ȝe be meik ȝit thay miſtak ȝo*ur* mynd
And ſweiris ȝe ar far ſchrewdar nor ȝe ſeme
Swa doe ȝo*ur* beſt thus ſall ȝe be defynd
and all ȝour deidis ſall detracto*uris* deme.

ȝit thay will leif thair leing at the laſt
fra thay advert Invy will not availl
Bakbyteris brutis bydis bot ane blaſt
Thay flo*uris* ſone but farder frŭit thay faill
Rek not therfoir how raſcall raveris raill
for neuer ȝit wes vertew without Invy
Swa promptlie ſall ȝour patience prevaill
Quhen thay perhap ſic deming ſall deny.

finis

Ane Admonitioun to my lord of Mar Regent.

66 b [XLIV.

Maiſt loyall lord ay for thy lawtie lovit
Now be not lakit for deloyaltie
Thocht to the princes place thow be promovit
Be not abuſit be auctoritie
Bot ſchaw thy treuth and thyne Integritie
Sen we ſo far our ſelfis hes ſubmittit
And king and coũntrie lawis and libertie
vnto thy cũire and credit haue co*mm*ittit.

Thy hous hes ay bene truſtie and Inteir
Defamed not with fraud or fikilnes
Bot ſchaw thy ſelf bayth ſaige ſchairpe and ſinceir
Indewed with vertew wit and worthines /
Ingyne / Iudgme*n*t / Iuſtice / and gentilnes
Craft / conduct / cair / and knawledge to co*mm*and
Heroik hairt / honour / and hardines
Or in this ſtorme thay ſtait will neuer ſtand.

We have the choſin to the cheifeſt chairge
our toſſit galay to gouerne and gũyde
Bewar with bobbis ſcho is ane brukill bairge
and may not bitter blaſtis weill abyide
Thow may hir tyne in turning of ane tyde
Caſt weill thy cours thow hes ane kittill cũire
of perellis pance / and for ſum port provyide
and ancho*u*r ſiker quhair thow may be ſũire.

All boreas bitter blaſtis ar not blawin
I feir ſum boid / and bobbis be behind

Be tyide and

Be tyide and tempeſt thow may be overthrawin
And monye fairlie fortounis thow may find
As channellis craiggis / beddis and bankis blind
Lekis / and wanlukis q*uhair*by thow may be loiſt
Bewar therfoir with wedder waw or wind
With vncouth courſes and vnknawin coſt.

Thow may put all into apperand perrell
gif Engliſch forces in this realme repair
Sic ar not meit for to decyide our querrell
Thocht farland foullis ſeme to haue fedderis fair
Cŭm thay acquent thay will creip Inner mair
And wilbe noyſum nichtbo*uris* and enorme
and ſchortlie will ſit to our ſyidis as ſair
as now the rebellis quhome thay ſould reforme.

That freindſchip is ay faithfulleſt a far
and langeſt will Induire with littill daill
I feir be vſe and tyme it work to war
fra thay aganis our p*ar*tie anis prevaill
Quha wait bot ſen our ſelfis thay will aſſaill
auld fais ar ſeindill faithfull freindis found
firſt help the half and ſyne o*ur*harle ȝe haill
Wilbe ane wofull weilfair to o*ur* wound.

Be thair exempill learne experience
ane forrane matche or maiſter to admit
Reid quhen the Saxonis gat preeminence

Howſone thay ſocht as ſoveranis for to ſit
Reid how thay forcit the britonis folkis to flit
and ȝit poſſeidis that peopillis propertie
Be war we may be walterit or we wit
And lyikwyiſs loiſs our land and libertie.

Ane thowſand ſic examples I could ſchaw
and monye nobill natioun I may name
Quho loiſt at lenth thair libertie and law
and ſufferit hes baith ſorrow ſcayth and ſchame
that for to help thair hairmes and hurt at hame
fetchit forraine forces into thair ſupport
Quha fŭilȝeit thair fredome force and fame
and thame ſubdewit in the famyn fort.

Fleand charibde be war in ſcill to fall
and ſo eſchew Ciŭill diſſentioun
That our eſtait to ſtraingeris be not thrall
The canker of our auld contentioun
Will keip no covene nor conventioun
And gif thow gif thame credit to correct ws
Be craftie wayis will and Inventioun
and ſubteill ſlichtis thay will ſeik to ſubiec ws

Scotland come neuer ȝit in ſervitude
Sen fergus firſt bot euer hes bene frie
And hes bene alwayis brŭiked be a blŭid
and king of kingis diſcendit grie by grie
Gif that it be in boundage brocht be the

Then waried war thy weirdis & wanhap
Thairfoir thir forraine fais ſa foirſie
That catched we be not with thy eiſtclap.

Mark and mint at thy hono*ur* laud and prayſs
The vertew worſchip word and vaſſalledge
of ſic as hes done douchtellie in theis dayis
To keip this realme from thraldome and boundage
Mark als the vyilde vituper and the waige
of vntreuth treſſoun and of tyra*nn*ie
and how ſone hono*ur* hes ane heritage
and lyffis loſt for thair deloyaltie

So for thy factis thow be ſuire to find
The lyik rewaird of vertew or of vyce
Be not thairfoir ſyild as ane bellie blind
Nor let thy ſelf be led vpon the yce
Nor to content thy marrowis covatice
Put not thy ſelf in perrell for to peres
Nor beir the blame q*uhair* otheris takis ȝe pryce
nor beit the bus quhair o*ȝer*is eatis ȝe bereis.

The trone of tryall and theatre trew
is for to regne and reull aboue ȝe reſt
Quho hes ȝe wogue him all the warld dois vew
and magiſtrat the man dois manifeſt
Sua ſen thow hes the princes place poſſeſt
lŭik to be prayſit as thow playis thy pairt
And as thow luiffis ſo luiffed be and leſt
and alwayis delt with efter thy deſert.

finis.

68 b [XLV.

Gif it be trew that ſtoreis doe rehers
that ſorrow ſouppis ſinceritie of ſens
gif it be ſuithe that poetis put in vers
that langour makis dull Intelligens
of the wryter gif ſũire be the ſentens
that troublit hairt makis a rurell ryme
thocht this my wryt be void of eloquens
Accuſe not me bot wyite ȝe wicked tyme.

The ſimpill wit and ſchairpnes of Ingyne
Quhilk quhylome wes now quyte is taine away
The ſtering ſpreit q*uhi*lk poetis call devyne
Into my febill breiſt I find decay
I nather courage haue to ſing or ſay
quhen I behauld this warldis wickednes
and quhen I find I a*m* ſo far thame fray
quha wes my onlie confort and glaidnes.

My fais fall and freindis gud ſucces
ſumtyme my pen wes beſſie till endyite
of nobill men the valiant prowes
ſumtyme my courage ȝairnit for to wryte
The laud hono*ur* and the prayſes greit
of thame ſumtyme I wiſſed till advance
quhom now of neid my hairt hes in diſpyte
and quhome I wyit of this vnhappie chance.

Then maiſtres luik na mair for onye frũitt
Or onye worke to cum of my Ingyne
for now I nather cair for fame nor brũit

XLVI. 69

I haue ſa tint that I na mair can tyne
Gaine is my hŭik and cuttit is my lyne
Amang thir poetis I will fiſche na mair
No man regairdis renoun in rowyne
In miſerie I ſuffie not for gloir.

My hairt fainteth my fingeris failleth me
To wryte or dyte of mirrines to mein
finding me far fra that gud cumpanie
ſa willinglie q*uhair* I ſumtyme haue bein
And knawing the ſorrow that I than ſuſtein
be feinȝeit falſet and vnthankfulnes
The moir I think the moir my woundis grein
My breiſt in baill boudnes with bitternes.

M. ARbŭthnot.

Ane Conſolatore Ballad to Sir Richart Maitland of Lethingtoun knicht.

Tobie moſt trew in monye troubillis tryit
And Iob moſt Iuſt in goddis Iudme*n*tis reioyiſs
Of prudence perle now in ȝour paine applyit
Doe quhat ȝe dow all dolour to depoiſs
Nane can eſchew nor have thair chance as choiſs
Thairfoir be glaid and gif all gloir to god

Quhais bontie neuer dois abandoun thoſe
that reſtis on him reioſing in his rod.

3our greif is greit I graunt in ſa greit aage
Thus to be maid a martyre but a miſs
With loſs alace ſo lairge of linage
and childrein wyſe and verteous at 3our wis
Beſyide aboundance of all erdlie blis
Bot weill 3e wait all warldlie welthe is vaine
Then thank 3our god and tak na thocht of this
goddis giftis thay wer glaidlie gif thame againe.

3our wit with vertew in 3our woe declair
Let no miſhap nor miſerie 3ow move
nor be not drawin be dolour to diſpair
bot patientlie prayſs god that dois 3ow prove
Think It not baill bot bliſsing from above
and ſinge maiſt ſuir that 3e ar not forſakin
for ay ſic lote is linked with his love
quhairof tak this 3our tryell for a takin.

For quha with Chriſt cravis to communicat
the cairfull croce man carie as thair heid
be paine his paſſioun and participat
Suffer ennŭy neceſſitie and neid
duill and diſdaine / diſtres dolour and dreid
and patientlie pas our this pilgramage
be paine to perſyte pleſour to proceid
In hevin our hairbour / hame and heritage.

XLVI.]

For as the maſs mifforme of mudie mold
be quelling dois fair qualiteis acquyire
and grethed in gleid growis glorious gleting gold
Sa in afflixioun as ane furneis fyire
We ar prepared be prove to the Impyire
quhair god fic fchreudis fall from his fanctis diffever
that hevin hes heir and hence none other hyire
In warldlie welth wrapit in woe for euer.

Quhair as the chofin be correctioun
as in the fyire are fraimed to his feir
Bot euer with fo fatherlie affectioun
That in thair paine his pitie dois appeir
And blift ar thay dois fa thair burding beir
That faintis not bot faithfull ftill ar found
And patientlie in prŭif dois perfeueir
for ay the rod dois to thair reft redound.

To mak his micht and mercie manifeft
god his peculiar proper peopill previt
Bot ay thair trowbillis turnit to the beft
that conftantlie vntill his cŭnnand cleved
Evin fo ar now the godlie greitlie greved
and lothfum is the lot of the elect
Bot thay at lenth with Ioy falbe relevit
that patientlie his plefour dois expect.

The croce of Chrift and eik his cair contempill
our aduocat and moft affured ayd
propone that perfyte patroun for exempill
for to withftand all woe that can Invaid.

Gif him all gloir and in 3o*ur* greif be glaid
Sen 3e haue lerned 3e ar the lordis elect
Sa ſuir ſeilled vp ſen him ſelf hes ſaid
Quhome that I lŭif Be croce I doe correct.

I neid no auld exempill to receit
as tobie / Iephe / Iob / Iacob or ſamſon
3our ſelf may be a patroun mair perfyte
of patience and perles paragon
A thowſand tymes 3e thame excell ilkone
In frowning fortoun nane I find ſo fit
as perfyte patroun to 3ow to propone
as 3e 3our ſelf gif 3e will vſe 3our wit.

3e ar ſo wittie verteous and wyiſs
I dar not preis to preitche 3ow patience
With 3our awin wit bot wiſs 3ow to advyiſs
and to continew clein in conſcience
let prudence prattick and experience
3our weill and woe advyiſedlie revolue
So thocht 3e ſeme a ſeſſoun in ſuſpence
3our reſſoun ryipe will richtlie 3ow reſolue.

Wo workis to weill be vyice alternatiue
and tein and troubill baith ar tranſitorie
Quhen ſyt and ſorrow ſemis ſuperlatiue
Sagis ſould ſeme leiſt ſuffious and ſorie
The greter greif the greter is the glorie
Quhen is maiſtred with magnanimit mynd
let vertew then and wit haue victorie
according to the courage of 3o*ur* kynd.

Quhilk wes ay wittie vailȝeant and wyiſs
Magnanime manfull and of mirrie mŭid
Of prudence baith and prowes had the pryiſs
of modeſtie meiknes and manſuetud
Greit is the gloir of ȝour grandfatheris gud
That ſtoutlie ſtuid in monye ſtalwart ſtour
Bauld and but blot or blemiſche is ȝour bluid
and ay hes bene in honour to this hour.

Sic deſtanie and derf devoring deid
oft hes ȝour houſs in hazaird put of auld
Bot ȝour foirbearis fraward fortounis feid
and bitter blaſtis ay bŭir with breiſtis bauld
Lŭit wanwerdis work and walter as thay wauld
Thair hardie hairtis hawtie and heroic
for fortounis feid or force wald neuer fauld
Bot ſtormis withſtuid with ſtomak ſtout and ſtoic.

Renowned Richard of ȝour raice recoird
Quhais prayiſs and prowes can not be expreſt
Mair luſtie linage neuer had a lord
for he begat the bauldeſt bairnis and beſt
Maiſt manfull men, and madinis maiſt modeſt
That euer wes ſen Priamis tyme of troy
Bot piteouſlie thay peirles perlis a peſt
Bereft him all bot burdalane a boy.

Him ſelf wes aged, his hous hang be a hair
Doull and diſtres almoſt to deid him drew

3it burdalaine his onlie ſone and air
as worthie wyſe and vail3eant as the lave
His hous vpheld quhilk 3e with honour have
So nature then the lyik enuy and name
In kyndlie cair dois kyndlie courage crave
To follow him in fortoun and in fame.

Richard he wes / Richard 3e ar alſo
and Maitland als and Magnanime ar 3e
In als greit age / als wrappit ar in Wo
Sevin ſonnis 3e had micht contravaill his thrie
Bot Burdalane 3e haue behind as he
The lord his linnage ſo enlairge and lyne
as monye hundreth nepotis grie be grie
Sen Richard wes as hundreth 3eiris ar hyne.

3our cairfull caice to his is ſo conforme
Greit caus 3e haue lyik confort to conſave
eſteme this ſturt as ane vnſtabill ſtorme
Will god quha him ſic grace and glaidnes gave
ſic hap and honour eſter harme to have
Vphauld his hous ſo mony hundreth 3eiris
Let 3our gray hairis but greif go to the grave
With better hairt mair bitternes that beiris.

Na na confide his clemence will not quyte
ſic ſobernes with ſic ſeueritie
Bot ſend 3ow ſchortlie ſecours in 3our ſyte
Peace perfyte pleſour and proſperitie.

and propagat ſo ȝour poſteritie
from ſone to ſone as he did ſarais ſeid
Seik him and ſerue him with ſinceritie
He will deny ȝow nathing in ȝo*ur* neid.

ȝour hous is build on him as he hes biddin
for not availlis warldlie welthis or wit
Gif ſic had ß*er*ũit forſuith it had not ſliddin
god is the ground be him it man grow greit
Not be ȝour brain bot be his benefeit
ſo now I houp his help and halie hand
ſall found and fix it faſter on ane fit
nor quhen It ſemed be ſtranger ſtouppis to ſtand.

Iob wes deiected and Iudgit lang vniuſt
Puire with reproche he did his paine deploir
Be miſerie almoſt moved to miſtruſt
Sa greitlie god him greifed to his gloir
Syne reſt renoũn and ritches did reſtoir
and for his ſonnis ꝑ*at* ſuddanlie wer ſlaine
by doubling of all blis he had befoir
encreſſed his ſeid with ſonis ſevin againe.

And quhen Tobias for his ſone tũik thocht
Baith blind and boũn almoſt to beg his breid
He ſend him ſicht and ſaif his ſone hame brocht
and with aboundance bliſt him to the deid
and lũit him ſie his ſonis ſonis ſeid

Sa to his awin his ayd is alwayis ane
He will confort ȝow conſtantlie confeid
Bring ȝow from baill and blis ȝo*ur* burdalane.

ȝour hous of auld oft had no hair but ane
ȝea worne away oftymis the warld it wenit
Quhen it was waik and without vther waine
oftymis his micht and mercie did maintein it
and laitlie onlie on the lord it lenit
Was demed doŭn and to the duſt deiectit
quha ſend ȝour ſelf to faue it and ſuſtenit
and in renoun and ritches to erectit.

And gif ȝe mark his merceis moniefauld
forſuith ſenſyne he hes not bene a fleip
bot did ȝour baill moſt bonteouſlie behauld
ȝour onlie ſone quha ſemed a ſlauchter ſcheip
With als greit cair he did conſ*er*ue and keip
as Noe Lothe or ſuſan monye wayis
and in ſic ſtormis as may gar ſtraing*er*is ſteip
Suſtenis ȝour ſelf and gevis ȝow monye dayis.

Think not ſic pitie is but providence
or he hes wrocht ſa wonderouſlie in vaine
Or that his micht and mercie maiſt Immens
In thair diſtres his darlingis will diſdaine
no pitie is a perfyte preſage plaine
he will ȝo*ur* hous in hono*ur* ȝit vphauld

A monument of mercie to remaine
from hence furth ay as it hes benè of auld.

Thairfoir reioyiſs in him and tak 3our reſt
as 3e wald wiſche 3our wo away ſall wend
Be mirrie for his mercie manifeſt
Promptlie a perfyte pleſour dois portend
And he 3our hous 3our ſelf and ſone will ſend
mair ſolace ſchortlie nor 3e can conſave
Helthe Ioy in hairt honour and in the end
3our gray heid ſall with glaidnes go to grave.

finis.

Vp hairt thow art the pairt
of man most Souuerane
let seruile memberis ſmart
& bound alaine remaine
for gif thow doe not staine
thy treuth and honestie
how can thow be in paine
no suirlie thow art frie.

The boundage of the hairt
with schame is for to serue
& from his honest pairt

& vertew for to suerue
gif thow doe not deſerue
that blot of infamie
thocht captive fleſche do sterue
3it suirlie thow art frie.

Thocht fortoun fraud or force
detein the in ſuſpence
gif thow haue no remorce
in mynd nor conſcience
& hes done none offence
thocht in captiuitie
thow suffer Violence
3it suirlie thow art frie.

Bot gif thow micht be taxit
or falset with the found
the corps micht be relaxit
bot schame sould the confound
& gif the suche a wound
sould lest perpetuallie
& mak the ſclaue so bound
that thow couldest neuer be frie.

XLVII.] 74

Bot sen it is not so
reioyis & tak the rest
thocht fortoun be thy fo
hir frowning sall not lest
bot cummis for the best
thy treuth to testifie
So thocht thow be opprest
zit suirlie thow art frie.

Then hairt heild not ane hair
nor in thy prisoun ply
thy Vertew now declair
& fortounis feid defy
for tyme thy treuth sall try
and gif the Victorie
of fortoun & Invy
& thow for euer be frie.

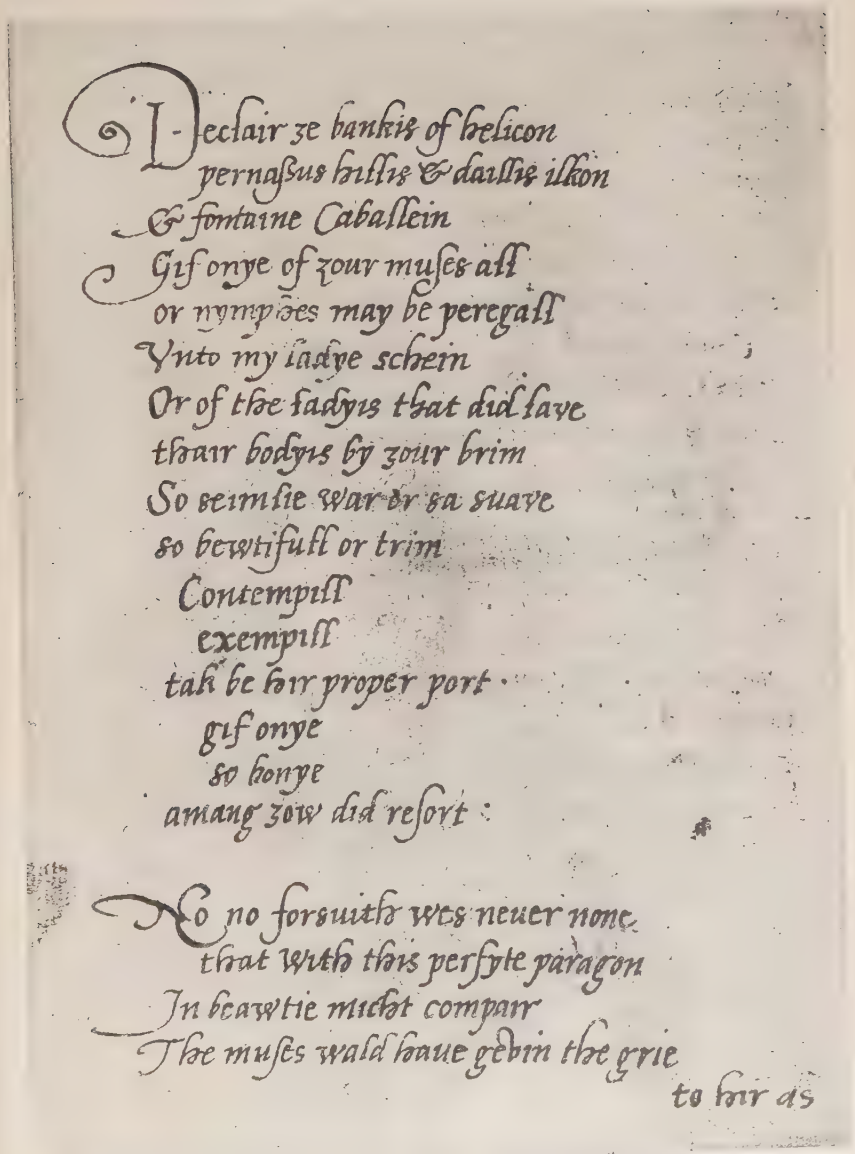
finis.

74 b [XLVIII.

Declair ȝe bankis of helicon
pernaſsus hillis & daillis ilkon
& fontaine Caballein
Gif onye of ȝour muſes all
or nymphes may be peregall
Vnto my ladye schein
Or of the ladyis that did lave
thair bodyis by ȝour brim
So seimlie war or sa suave
so bewtifull or trim
Contempill
exempill
tak be hir proper port
gif onye
so bonye
amang ȝow did reſort.

No no forsuith wes neuer none
that with this perfyte paragon
Jn beawtie micht compair
The muſes wald haue gevin the grie

to hir as



Declair ze bankis of helicon
pernassus hillis & daillis ilkon
& fontaine Caballein
Gif onye of zour muses all
or nymphes may be peregall
Vnto my ladye schein
Or of the ladyis that did lave
thair bodyis by zour brim
So seimlie war or sa suave
so bewtifull or trim
Contempill
exempill
tak be hir proper port
gif onye
so bonye
amang zow did resort :

No no forsuith wes neuer none
that with this perfyte paragon
In beawtie micht compair
The muses wald haue gebin the grie
to hir as

To face p. 152.

to hir as to the Aperſe
& peirles perle preclair
thinking with admiratioun
hir persone so perfyite
nature in hir creatioun
to forme hir tuik delyite
Confes then
expres then
3our nymphes & all thair trace
for bewtie
of dewtie
Sould zeild & give hir place.

Apelles quha did sa decoir
Dame venus face & breist befoir
With colouris exqueſeit
that nane micht be compared thairtill
nor zit na painter had ye ſkill
the bodye to compleit
War he this lyvelie goddes grace
& bewtie to behauld
he wald confes his craft & face
Surpast a thouſand fauld
not abill
in tabill

With colouris competent
so quiklie
or liklie
a forme to repreſent.

Or had my ladie bene alyve
Quhen the thrie goddeſsis did stryve
& Paris wes maid Iudge
fals helene Menelaus maik
had neuer cauſed king priamus wraik
Jn troy nor had refudge
for ather ſcho the pryiſs had wone
as weill of womanheid
or ellis with Paris Priams ſone
had gone in Helenis steid
Estemed
& demed
of colour twyis so cleir
far suetar
& metar
to haue bein Paris feir.

As phœbus treſs hir hair & breeis
With angell hew & cristall eeis

XLVIII.] 76

& toung most eloquent
Hir teithe as perle in curall set
hir lippis & cheikis pumice fret
as roſe maist redolent
With yvoire nek & pomellis round
& comlie Intervall
hir lillie lyire so soft & sound
and proper memberis all
bayth brichter
& tichter
then marbre poleist clein
perfyter
& quhyter
then Venus luiffis quein.

Hir angell Voice in melodie
dois pas the hevinlie harmonie
and Sirens songe most sueit
for to behauld hir countenance
hir gudlie grace & governance
Jt is a Ioy compleit
Sa Wittie Verteous & wyis
& prudent but compair
Without all Wickednes & Vyce

Maist douce & debonair
In Vesture
& gesture
maist seimlie & modest
With wourdis
& bourdis
to solace the opprest.

Na thing thair is in hir at all
that is not Supernaturall
maist proper & perfyte
So freſche so fragrant & so fair
as Dees & Dame Bewteis air
& dochter of delyte
With qualeteis & forme devine
be nature so decoird
As goddes of all feminine
of men to be adoird
Sa bliſsed
that wiſsed
Scho is in all mennis thocht
as rarest
& fairest
that euer nature Wrocht.

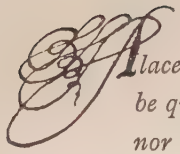
Hir luikis as titan radiant
wald pers ane hairt of adamant
& it to love alluire
hir birning beawtie dois embrayis
my breist & all my mynd amayis
& bodye haill combuire
J haue na ſchift bot to resing
all power in hir handis
& willinglie my hairt to bring
to bind it in hir bandis
To langwiſs
Jn angwiſs
soir woundit & oppresst
forleit it
or treit it
as scho sall think it best.

J houp sa peirles pulchritud
Will not be Voyide of Manſuetud
nor cruellie be bent
Sa ladye for thy courteſie
have pitie of my miſerie
& lat me not be ſchent
Quhat prayis haue ze to be ſeueir

or cruellie to kill
3our Wofull woundit prisoneir
all zouldin in 3our will
ay preiſsing
but ceiſsing
Maist humlie for to serue
then pruif me
& luif me
as deidis sall deserue.

And gif ze find diſsait in me
or ony quent consait in me
zour bontie till abuſe
My dowbill deling be diſdaine
acquyt & pay me hame againe
& flatlie me refuiſe
Bot sen I mein Sinceritie
& trew luif from my hairt
to quyite me W^t austeritie
forsuith War not zour pairt
Or trap me
or Wrap me

maist Wrangfullie in Wo
foirsaking
& wraiking
zour seruand as zour fo.



Place let not trew amitie
be quyite With so greit crueltie
nor seruice be diſdaine
Bot rather hairt be reuthfull
& ze sall find me treuthfull
constant secreit & plaine
Jn sorrow lat me not consome
nor langer dolour drie
bot suddanlie pronũce the dome
gif I sall leif or die
that having
my craving
mirthfull I may remaine
or speid sone
the deid sone
& put me out of paine.

finis.

As phœbus in his ſpheris hicht
precellis the kaip Crepuſculein
And phœbe all the ſtarris licht
3o*ur* ſplendo*ur* ſo madame I wein
Dois onlie pas all feminine
In ſapience ſuperlative
Indewit with vertewis ſa devine
as leirned pallas rediviue.

And as be hid vertew vnknawin
The adamant drawis yron *ȝair*till
3our courtes nature ſo hes drawin
My hairt 3o*uris* to continew ſtill
Sa greit Ioy dois my ſpreit fulfill
contempling 3our perfectioun
3e weild me holie at 3o*ur* will
and raviſs my affectioun.

3our perles Vertew dois provoike
and loving kyndnes ſo dois move
My Mynd to freindſchip reciproc
That treuth ſall try ſa far above
The auntient heroicis love
as ſalbe thocht prodigious
and plaine experie*n*ce ſall prove
Mair holie and religious.

In amitie perithous
To theſeus wes not ſo traiſt
Nor Till Achilles patroclus
nor pilades to trew oreſt
Nor ȝit achates lŭif ſo leſt
to gud Ænee nor ſic freindſchip
Dauid to Ionathan profeſt
nor Titus trew to kynd Ioſip.

Nor ȝit Penelope I wiſs
ſo luiffed vliſſes in hir dayis
Nor Ruth the kynd moabitiſs
Nohemie as the ſcripture ſayis
nor portia quhais worthie prayiſs
In romaine hiſtoreis we reid
Quha did devoir the fyrie brayiſs
To follow brutus to the deid.

Wald michtie Ioue grant me the hap
With ȝow to haue ȝo*ur* brutus pairt
and metamorphoſing our ſchap
My ſex intill his vaill convert
No brutus then ſould caus ws ſmart
as we doe now vnhappie wemen
Then ſould we bayt*h* with Ioyfull hairt
hono*ur* and bliſs ȝe band of hymen.

Ȝea certainlie we ſould efface
Pollux and caſtoris memorie
and gif that thay deſ*e*ruit place
amang the ſtarris for loyaltie
Then o*u*r mair perfyte amitie
mair worthie recompence ſould merit
In hevin eternall deitie
ama*n*g the goddis till Inherit.

And as we ar thocht till o*u*r wo
nature and fortoun doe co*n*iŭre
and hymen alſo be our fo
Ȝit luif of vertew dois procuire
freindſchip and amitie ſa ſuire
with ſa greit ferue*n*cie and force
Sa conſtantlie q*uhi*lk ſall Indŭire
That not bot deid ſall ws divorce.

And thocht aduerſitie ws vex
Ȝit be o*u*r freindſchip ſalbe ſein
Thair is mair conſtancie in o*u*r ſex
Then euer ama*n*g men hes bein
no troubill / torment / greif / or tein
nor erthlie thing ſall ws diſſeuer
Sic conſtancie ſall ws mantein
In perfyte amitie for euer.
finis.

L.] 80

Lord god how lang will this law leſt
be q*uhi*lk ſum trew men ar oppreſt
of houſſ and landis diſpoſſeſt
Without ane caus
ſum ſair ar dreſt
Sum ſair moleſt
be new found lawis.

For lak of Iuſtice ſum gettis wrang
and ſum be trato*uris* tyrannis ſtrang
ſum in the ſeſſioun lyis o*ur* lang
and hulie ſpeidis
Sair is the ſang
poure folkis ama*n*g
that Iuſtice neidis.

Be mein of court ſum gettis land
Thinking that conqueis ay ſall ſtand
Thocht coũrtis ay hes bene chaingeand
as dois the mone
That ſum hafand
ane work in hand
and leif it ſone.

Think ȝe that ar ſa proud oppreſſouris
Thocht ȝe in court haue Interceſſouris

80 b [L.

That god will thoill ſa greit tranſgreſſouris
Vnpuniſchit be
fra goddis digreſſo*uris*
and wrang poſſeſſo*uris*
Repent ſall ȝe.

In haiſt I counſell ȝow thairfoir
all gottin wrangouſlie reſtoir
or ȝe ſall not cŭm to the gloir
of hevinis Impyire
Bot euer moir
tormentit ſoir
In hellis fyire.

Lord puniſche thame that ay pretendit
for to doe wrang or it defendit
In haiſt lat thame be apprehendit
and thoill the law
or gar thame mendit
quhome thay offendit
In deid or ſaw.

And ȝe that hes the law to leid
Without favo*ur* freindſchip or feid
ay forder Iuſtice to proceid
Indifferentlie

ȝo*ur* proces

ȝour proces ſpeid
help thame hes neid
quhat euer thay be.
S. R. M.

Sair is the recent mŭrmo*u*r and regrait
Amang the leigis riſſin of the lait
Throw all the coŭntrie bayth of riche & pŭire
Plenand vpon the lordis of the ſait
That thair lang proces may na man Indŭire.

The Baroŭnis ſayis that thay haue far mair ſpendit
Vpon the law or thair mater wes endit
Nor It wes worth thairfoir richt fair thay rew
To found ane plie that euer thay pretendit
Bot left it to thair airis to perſew.

The pŭire folk ſayis that thay for falt of ſpending
man leif the law it is ſa lang in ending
Lang proces thame to povertie hes brocht
for of thair ſcayth be law can get na mending
That thay ar faine to grie for thing of nocht.

Sum gevis the Wyit that ȝair is on the ſeſſioun
ſum not ſa cu*n*ning nor of ſa gud diſcretioun
as thay befoir Into that rowme hes bein
Quhilk doing Iuſtice keipit thair profeſſioun
of quhome thair wes na caus for to complein.

81 b [LI.

Now ȝe that ar not of this ſait content
Pas to the prince to him ȝo*ur* caus lament
And him exhort and pray effectiouſlie
That in that ſait he wald na man preſent
In tyme to cum bot thay that ar worthie.

Gud cu*n*ning men that ar wyiſs and diſcreit
Practiciens gud and for ȝat ſenat meit
Men of gud conſcience honeſtie and fame
That can with wit and treuth all mate*r*is treit
And hes be prudence purchaſt ane gud name.

And ſyne gar call the colledge of Iuſtice
all thair dependeris and v*ȝer*is that ar wyiſs
and trye ȝe caus of law the langſu*m*nes
and gar thame ſone ſum gud ordo*ur* devyiſs
To furder Iuſtice and ſchortin ȝe lang proces.

Bot gif ȝis mater vnme*n*dit be o*ur*ſein
The leigis can na greter ſckayt*h* ſuſtein
for na man ſall be ſũir of land or geir
The trew and poure ſalbe oppreſſed clein
and this colledge ſall not lang perſeueir.

And gif this ſait of ſenato*uris* gang doun
The ſpũnk of Iuſtice in this regioun
I wait not how this realme ſall rewlit be
Better It wer gud reformatioun
nor let it periſche ſo Imprudentlie—

for gif this ſait of Iuſtice ſall not ſtand
Then euerie wicked man at his awin hand
ſall him revenge as he ſall think it beſt
Ilk bangeiſter and limmer of this land
with frie brydill ſall doe quhat pleis thame beſt.

Our ſouuerane lord to this mater haue ee
for it pertenis to thy maieſtie
This colledge to vphauld or lat it doŭn
bot will thow it vphauld as it ſould be
It will the helpe for to maintein thy croun.

Caus ilk day ſo faist dois multiplie
That with this ſait can not over takin be
Bot wald thy hienes ȝairof eik ȝe nummer
of ſenatouris men cunning and godlie
Wald monie matter end that makis cummer.

Sir at thy gift is monye Abeceiſs
Perſonagis Proveſtreis and prebendareis
now ſen doun is the auld religioun
To eik ſum lordis gif ſum benefeis
and ſum to help the auld fundatiouñ.

Becaus the lordis hes our litill feis
bot of vncertaine caſualiteis
of quhilk thay neuer get payment compleit
and now ſic derth is riſſin all men ſeyis
That coiſt ane pound befoir now coiſtis thrie.

82 b LII.

Sir thow may gar vnhurt thy propertie
the ſait of Iuſtice weill advancit be
Quhilk being done thair ſall daylie Incres
Into this land gud peace and policie
and thow be brocht to honour and riches.

O leving lord ſupport this cruell ſait
and give thame grace to gang the nareſt gait
Iuſtice to doe with expeditioun
And bring all thing againe in gud eſtait
following the firſt gud inſtitutioun

S. R. M.

This warld ſo fals is and vnſtabill
of gredines vnſatiabill
In all eſtaitis ſic doubilnes
To find trew freindis ſew ar abill
for keipit is na auld kyndnes

Thocht ȝe doe pleſour to greit men
Thairfoir thay will ȝow ſcantlie ken
gif ȝe haue ocht with thame to dres
ȝe ar not abill to get ben
for kepit is na auld kyndnes

Thocht ȝe haue ſervit monye ane ȝeir
ane lord on ȝour awin coſt and geir

and ȝe be fallin in diſtres
ȝow to releif he wilbe ſueir
and coũnt nathing ȝo*ur* auld kyndnes.

Thocht ȝe have ladyis ſ*er*uit lang
and previt ȝo*ur* pith hes thame amang
and ȝe of venus game decres
out of *ȳair* court then man ȝe gang
not regairding ȝo*ur* auld kyndnes.

Sum to *ȳair* ny*ch*tbo*uris* hes bene kynd
that now *ȳair*of hes neuer mynd
bot notit with newfangilnes
of Ingraitnes it hes ane ſtryind
that can not keip na auld kyndnes.

Sum to co*m*mũniteis hes done
that Ingraitlie forȝeit it ſone
ſua full thay ar of fikilnes
changing as oft as dois the mone
and cuiris not for auld kyndnes.

Sum did for thame in court and feſſioun
that now falflie without diſcretioun
In tyme of troubill and buſines
melled with thair land geir and poſſeſſioun
That ſchew to thame ſa greit kyndnes.

Thair is that ſum men did reſet
w*ith* meit and claythis hes him bet

That efter in court gat entres
and wald not ken him quhen thay met
of quhom he gat ſa greit kyndnes.

Thocht ȝe with courteo*uris* hes bein
acque*n*tit lang be onye mein
and ȝe thame chairge with buſines
ar abill to miſknaw ȝow clein
and will forȝet auld kyndnes.

Sen in this warld in na degrie
is kyndnes nor fidelitie
Lat ws pray god of his gudnes
To bring ws to ye hevinis ſo hie
Quhairin thair is perfyte kyndnes.

S. R. M.

Dreid god & luif him faythfullie
have fayth in chryist ay constantlie
& with thy ny^{t}*bour cheritie*
for grace on god ay call
obey & ſerue ȝour prince trewlie
keip iuſtice peace & Vnitie
fra all ſort of ſeditioun flie
& doe reſſoun to all

LIII.] 84

hait pryide Invy & lecherie
all yre sueirnes & gluttonie
avarice & Idolatrie
all treaſoun & debaittis
love vertew richt & honestie
Jn cheritabill deidis exerced be
all lesume promeis keip Iustlie
to all maner of staittis.

Keip ȝow fra prodigalitie
oppreſsioun wrang & crueltie
& fra all Vyce & Vanitie
& ground ȝow vpon treuth
hant gud & honest cumpanie
vſe wyse counsale & gravitie
do all ȝour thingis diſcreitlie
and of the puire haue reuth.

S. r. m.

Ground the ay on gudnes
Rewll the with richteouſnes
Jn tyme doe thy buſines
& cheis ay the best
preis the not to oppres
help ay the fatherles
have na pryide nor proudnes
this warld will not lest.

Jn troubill tak patience
keip clein thy conſcience
to god doe reuerence
be to thy prince trew
keip ay weill thy credence
tyne nocht throw negligence
proceid ay with prudence
ydilnes eſchew.

Exceid not thy degrie
doe all thingis iustlie
haue god befoir thy e
quhair euer thow gang
guyde thy self honestlie
hant in gud companie
of the puire haue pitie
& doe nane wrang.

LV.] 85

At experience leir
foliſch speking forbeir
with meſour spend thy geir
na gud turne delay
Vse na ryatous cheir
doe thy nichtbour na deir
goddis worde glaidlie heir
& syne it obey.

S. R. M.

Sum of the poetis and makeris that ar now
of greit diſpyite and malice ar ſa fow
Sa that all leſingis that can be Inventit
Thay put in writ and garris thame be prentit
To gar the peopill euill opinioun tak
of thame quhome of that thay ȝair balladis mak
With ſclanderous wordes thay doe all thing thay can
for to defame monye gud honeſt man
In ſetting furth ȝair buikis and ȝair rymis
accuſand ſum of Improbabill crymis
And thocht that ſum ȝair libellis dois allow
ȝit few that will thair awin workes avow
And thocht that thay bakbyteris and blaſphemeris
now at this tyme hes monye ȝair mantenaris
The day will cum that thay ſall forthink it
that ȝai haue put ſic leſingis into writ.

To ſteill ane ma*n*nis fame Is greter ſin
nor onye geir that is this warld within
Therfoir repent ȝe railleris and reſtoir
To thame *ȳair* fame quhom ȝe ſclanderit befoir
To that effect ȝo*ur* word apply and deidis
euill brŭite to tak out of the peopillis heidis
Cry toung I leid throw all this natioun
mak bŭikis and rymes of recantatioun
Sic alteratioun may cŭm in this land
may gar ane tak ane other be the hand
And ſay think on ȝe maid of me ane ballat
for ȝo*ur* rewaird now I ſall brek ȝo*ur* pallat
men ſould be war quhat thing thay ſaid or did
for it may cŭm to licht lang hes bene hid
Therfoir na ma*n* mak ballatis nor Indyte
of detractatioun ill ſclander nor diſpyte
put not in writ that god or ma*n* may greif
all vertew luif and all vycis repreif
or mak ſum mirrie toy to gud purpoiſŝ
That may the herar or reader bayt*h* reioyſŝ
or ſum fruitfull or gud moralitie
or pleſand thingis may ſtand with cheritie
diſpyitfull poetis ſould not tholit be
In co*m*moun weillis or gud companie
That ſort ar ay to ſaw ſeditioun
and put gud men Into ſuſpitioun.

S. R. M.

Of god the miſknawlege
of sin the greit Vsage
na puniſhment for Vyce
the wanting of Iustice
Jnvy & gredines
debait & Vnkyndnes
oppreſsioun of the puire
of commoun Weill na cuire
pryide & weir intestine
Bringis realmis to ruine.

S. r. m.

Gif thow desyire thy hous lang stand
& thy succeſsioun bruik thy land
Above all thing love god and feir
Jntromet not with wrangous geir
nor conqueis na thing Wrangouſlie
With thy nichtbour keip cheritie
Obey dewlie thy magistrat
exceid in na thing thyne estait
Oppres not bot support the puire
to helpe the commoun Weill tak cuire
Vſe na diſsait nor mell with treasoun
& to all men doe richt & reasoun.

Baith into word & deid be trew
all kynde of Wickednes eſchew
ſlay na man nor thairto consent
be not cruell bot patient
allya ay in sum gud place
With noble honest godlie race
hait hurdome & all Vycis flie
be humbill hant gud companie
help thy freindis & doe na Wrang
& god sall gar thy hous lest lang.

S
R. M.

My lordis all ſen abſtinence is taine
In the meintyme that concord may be dreſt
now tyne na tyme as ȝe haue done bygaine
ſince ȝe may haue conferring as ȝe liſt
Doe ȝour power this realme to put to reſt
Let neuer weir againe amaȝng ȝow ryis
Then all the warld will ȝour proceding pryis.

Thair will na bodye be aganis this peace
bot gif it be of men of weir the bandis
Quhilk fra all kynd of ſcafrie can not ceiſs
and thay that bruikis otheris meȝnis landis
fra wrangous geir that can not keip ȝair handis.

This fort of men wald haue na quyetnes
for feir thay want fumthing that thay poſſes.

Bot at that fort ȝe fould na counſall tak
that hes na feir of god nor conſcience
To vſe all thing Impediment may mak
To ȝour concord and ȝe gif thame credence
How thay proceid *ȳair* is experience
for it is ſaid that ſum man ſair may rew
That in this land ſa monye capitaines grew.

For onye pleſo*ur* of thir gredie men
this co*mm*oun weill put not in Ieopardie
at ȝo*ur* conventioun gar the countrie ken
that ȝe travell to mak tranquillitie
And that ȝe ar content for till aggrie
all failȝeis paſt to be forȝet for euer
I trow ȝe ken bot few that faultit neuer.

Greit is the ſcayth that cu*mm*is of this weir
of ſlauchter heirſchip oppreſſioun and miſcheif
It is pitie the co*mm*ounis for to heir
How thay ar dreſt with thift and opin reif
Syne feis nane apperance of releif
Thir cruell crymis thay feir vnpuniſchit be
ſa lang as leſtis this Inanimitie.

ȝit of all weir peace is the finell end
Thairfoir aggrie my lordis or it be war

Thair is na thing bot peace that may this mend
and that ȝe wald this co*mm*oun weill prefer
To all cauſis that ar particular
and for na privat proffeit that may be
ſtop not to mak ane perfyte vnitie.

The Quhilk to doe I pray the leving lord
To gif ȝow grace in ſic aboundance now
That neuer mair be diſtance nor diſcord
and ſic Iuſtice be done this kinrik throw
The quhilk may gar the raſche bus keip the kow
and euerie man brŭik his awin land and geir
all trew leigis to leif withouttin weir.

S. R. M.

Our ſoŭŭerane lord into thy tender aage
lerne to ſ*e*rue god him lŭif aboue all thing
Thy coŭnſell cheis of gud men Iuſt and ſage
That ar expert maiſt abill and conding
To geve ane faithfull coŭnſell to ane king
how he ſould rewll his realme in peace and reſt
Vertew to lŭif and all vycis doun thring
Thame to releif that lang hes bene oppreſt.

Syne be thy coŭnſell gar it be provydit
how thow ſall leif to thy royall eſtait
and how thy nobill perſoun ſalbe gydit
In tyme to cum and quha ſall on the wait
To be thy gairde and ſerue the air and lait

and quhat barrounis ſall in thy court remaine
Thair tyme about it to decoir all gait
of thy affaires to tak ſum thocht and paine.

Thy propertie and caſualiteis
That thay be put to thy vtilitie
Will hauld thy hous and pay thy ßeruandis feis
and find all thing that neidfull is to the
gif thow will vſe na prodigalitie
and vainlie waiſt the rentis of thy croŭn
now in thy ȝouth experie*n*ce haue we
Thy leving haill brocht to confuſioun.

Wes neuer king nor prince in this coŭntrie
To leif vpon that had ſa greit ane rent
To thy proffeit gif it weill guydit be
and not in vaine conſumit and miſpent
Thairfoir be reſſoun thow ſould be content
To leif on it that to thy croun p*er*tenis
That on thy leigis taxatioun nor ſtent
be neuer raſit be vnlauchfull menis.

S*i*r at thy barrounis thrie thingis requyre
quhilk be reſſoun can not denyit be
firſt to brek Iuſtice that nane the deſyire
The ſecound is that thow may vſe trewlie
Thy awin leving that it may be frelie
Put to ſic proffeittis as gudlie it may be
Thridlie that thay the help and fortifie
Iuſtice to doe at all tymes nicht and day.

Sir give na eiris to vaine flatteraris
Quha at the lenth will bot the plaine defave
na credence give to commoun clatteraris
nor in thy court na bakbyteris refave
That will of thame at quhome thay malice have
To thy hienes monye loud lefing mak
and gar thy grace ane hatred confave
aganis trew men fra ye to hauld abak.

Micht fclaunderit men of the get audience
or wer prefent quhen evill taillis wer tauld
Thay fould fa weill defend yair Innocence
Thair honeftie fa Iuftifie thay wald
gar thame think fchame to lie that wes fo bauld
and caus thy grace fo ken ye veritie
That thow fould for honeft men thame hauld
and tratling toungis had our lang leif to lie.

O Royall roy thy realme ay rewll be richt
and be wyfe counfell guyde thy maieftitie
about thy perfoun haue bayth day and nicht
godlie gud men of fame and honeftie
and doe na thing In thy minoritie
Be perfuafioun of euill tailles not trew
That quhen thow comis to maioritie
Experience will geve the caus to rew.

3oung nobill king and thy counfell I pray
this commoun weill keip in tranquillitie
Sua fet it furth it may Incres ilk day
To thy leigis doe Iuftice equallie.

Without.

Without reſpect to perſone or pairtie
In this land na tŭilʒie be nor ſturt
And in ſum caice thy grace to ſchaw mercie
and ſpeciallie q*uhair* na pairtie is hurt

I pray to god the gyder of all thing
our ſouuerane ſave fra dolo*ur* and decay
and give him grace to be the nobleſt king
that in this regioŭn rang this monye day
That he may tak o*ur* lang dolo*ur* away
In his nonage that we have done ſuſtein
falſet and wrang be now baneiſt for ay
That gud Iuſtice ama*ng* ws may be ſein.

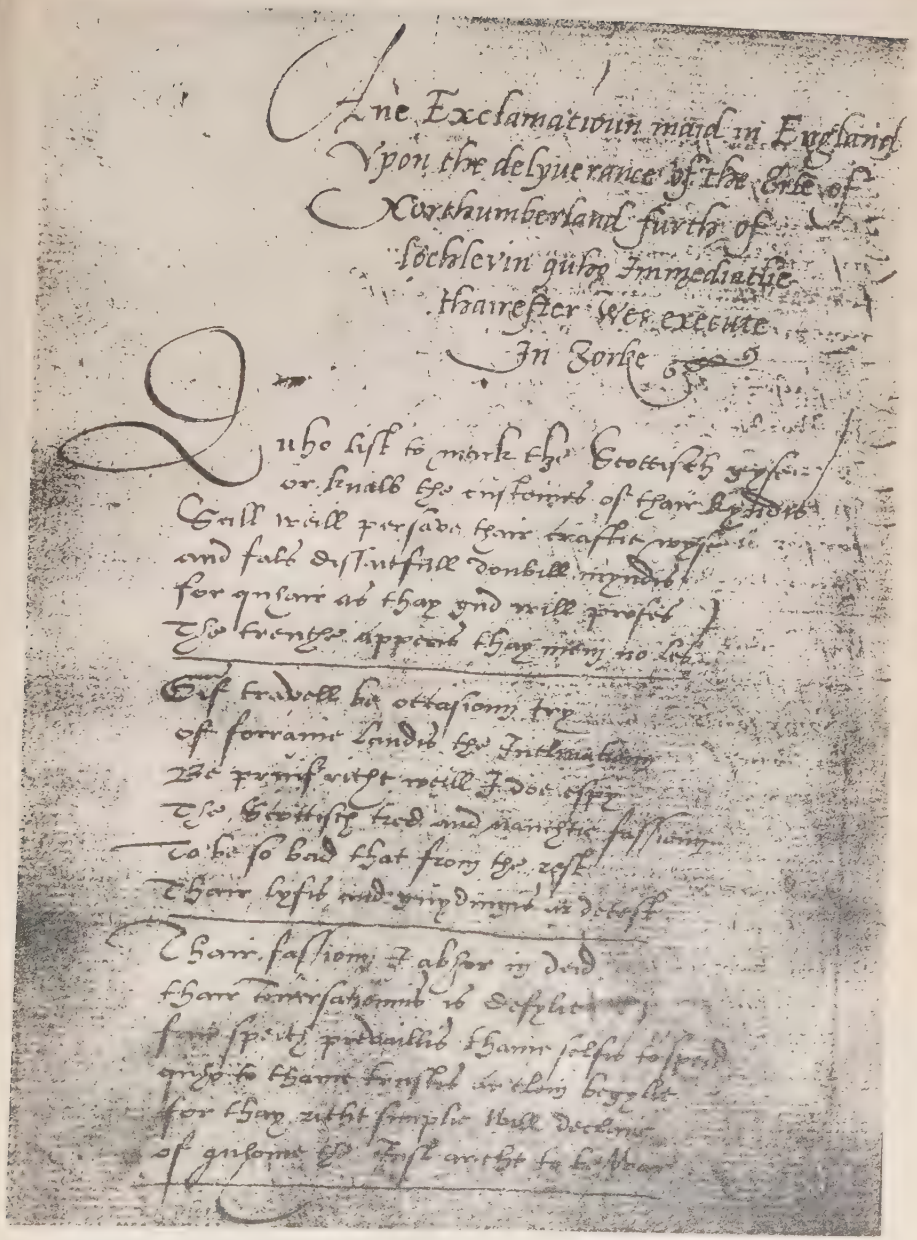
finis ꝙ S. Richard Maitland
of Lethingtoun kny*ch*t.

Ane Exclamatioun maid in England Vpon the delyuerance of the Erle of Northumberland furth of lochlevin quho Immediatlie thairefter wes execute In 3orke.

Quho liſt to mark the Scottiſch gyſe
or knaw the cŭſtomes of thair kyndis
Sall weill perſave thair craftie wyſe
and fals diſſaitfull doubill myndis
for quhair as thay gud will profes
The treuthe apperis thay mein no les.

Gif travell be occaſioun try
of forraine landis the Inclinatioun
Be prŭif richt weill I doe eſpy
The Scottiſch tred and nauchtie faſſioun
To be ſo bad that from the reſt
Thair lyfis and gŭydingis ar deteſt.

Thair faſſioun I abhor in deid
thair co*n*uerſatiounis is defylit
fair ſpeich prevaillis thame ſelfis to ſpeid
quho to thame truſtis ar clein begylit
for thay richt ſimplie will declair
of quhome the Iuſt aucht to be war.



Maitland Quarto MS., fol. 89 b.

To face p. 182.

LX.]

The fairer ſpeich the falſer hairtis
The ſũireſt bandis the ſoneſt brokin
The greater lordis the falſer p*ar*tis
gif ȳis worde may againe be ſpokin
for lordis and lairdis ar nather Iuſt
nor ȝit the co*mm*ounis to be truſt.

In falſet thay excell in kynd
In wordes thay maiſt of all exceid
In treaſoun none lyik doe I find
In treuth thay neuer obſerue ȳe creid
for ſay and promeis quhat thay can
thair wordes and deidis will neuer pan.

Gif Iudas pairt wes treſſonabill
or pylatis Iudgme*n*tis comptit bad
Quhy ſould I think thame reſſonabill
for honeſt truſt thay neuer had
experience be thame ſelfis appeiris
of thair greit treſſoun in few ȝeiris.

And now of lait the greteſt wrang
that euer nobill man poſſeſt
ane baneiſt lord wes thame amang
quho fled for feir to be oppreſt
Northũmberland hecht ȳis Lord to name
ſumtyme of hono*ur* and greit fame.

Quho for releif in tyme of wo
Did helples wander in thair land

as baneiſt wichtis wer wont to go
till efter grace thay better fand
Mŭrray Mortoun and Ruthvenis caice
for ſlauchter in thair princis place.

With thowſandis mo of lordis and loŭnis
of that vngratious natioun bred
quho fand releif in all o*ur* toŭnis
as cuſtome and gud faſſioun led
Thocht vnder colo*ur* thay pretendit
ȝit baneiſt wichtis wer ay defendit.

Gif treſpas be ſo greit ane ſin
as diſobedience dois deſerue
gif no refudge ane man may win
the penitent for helpe may ſterŭe
In Scotland had not bene ſic tŭill
gif ȳis had bene ȳe co*mm*oun reull.

Fy on the Scotland and thy ſeid
aboue all realmis woe the befall
Thy lordis hes done ſo ſchamfull a deid
that trato*ur*is ay men will ȝow call
ȝow ar ſo gredie on Engliſch gold
that all ȝo*ur* credit now is ſould.

And gif that you had bene in mynd
the aŭncient leig as trewis requyrit
nocht heirtofoir ȝow ſall on find
that to thair deith hes bene delyuerit

muche moir ane nobill baneiſt lord
quhy ſould ȝe ſell him to the cord.

This cryme of ȝo*uris* is ſo manifeſt
aboue all ſubtill treaſounis greit
The gold ȝe gat for ſuche ane gaiſt
will neuer by ȝo*ur* childring meit
It will decay and ȝit ȝour fame
co*n*tinew ſall with cruell blame.

Gif france had bene of ȝo*ur* accord
or flaunderis gevin thame ſelfis to gaine
Thair is remaning ȝit one lord
That had poſſeſt this wofull paine
Bot ȝit theſe lordis ſall hono*ur* haue
quhen ȝe with ſchame ſall go to graue.

And thocht I wryte aganis ȝo*ur* act
ȝit am I glaid we have the man
God may be gude and ȝit ȝour fact
ȝour childeris childrein may it ban
God is gratious quhen we repent
and our Q̃ene m*er*cifull in Iudgment.

finis

The Anſweir to the Engliſch Ballad.

3ow that doe wryte aganis the Scottis
thair actioun for to deprave
Thame taxing with ſo ſchamfull blottis
ſould haue alledgit reſſounis grave
I 3ow advyiſe call in 3our ſcroll
3ow wait not quho will it controll.

Thocht ſum have playit Iudas pairt
In ſelling gud northumberland
Quhy ſould the hoill for thair deſert
that faine wald haue that fact withſtand
or 3it the coũntrey beir the blame
Let thame that ſauld him haue the ſchame.

Mar and the diveliſche douglaſſis
and namelie mortoun and lochlevin
Mackgill and orknay ſcottiſch aſſis
and cleiſch quhomto ꝑe gold wes gevin
Dũmfermling that the py prepaird
and lowſe lindſay quho wes his gaird.

Theſe onlie wer the Iudaſſis
theſe onlie gave thairto advyiſe
And onlie theſe twa douglaſſis
participatit of his pryce
So lat his blŭid be on thair heidis
on thair poſteritie and ſeidis.

LXI.] 92

3our Quene had prŭif that mortoŭnis race
To covatice wes hoill Inclynde
and ſo to proſecute this caice
addreſt hir onlie to that kynd
and not to all bot mortoun rather
be money that corrupt his father.

Quho tuik king Hareis money ſo
our cardinall to keip in hauld
and ſyne for money lŭit him go
and for fyve hundreth croŭnis him ſauld
of kynd ſo mortoun hes it then
To chope and chainge and to ſell men.

3ow ſould not preis diſeſtimatioun
To ſuche as thairin no lak had
Thocht thair be alſo of *our* natioun
as of all otheris gud and bad
3it blame not all for one or two
that meinis no treuth to freind nor ſo.

Sen france producit ane ganʒelon
and England monye trato*uris* bred
Quhat fairlie then thocht we haue on
3it it is not ane Scottiſche tred
for Scotland ay of auld and new
To baneiſt wichtis wes euer trew.

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92 b [LXI.

Henrie the ſext wes heir exylde
for quhome we micht haue had greit gaine
As for his Quene and onlye chyild
ȝit wer thay nather ſauld nor ſlaine
ȝour ſtoreis ſchawis wer thay pervſit
greit ſtoir bot nane that wes euill vſit.

This Lordis wyfe ſocht to Lord home
as leonard dakeris and monye mo
Quhome all the gold in Chriſtindome
wald not have movit to ſell thame ſo
ȝe knaw quhat hairme he hes ſuſteind
for that he trewlie thame mainteind.

The erle of ſuſſix can recoird
quhen he deſyrit thame of his hand
the generous anſwer of that lord
that he maid to his ſchairpe demand
ſaid he wald rather give his heid
or he ſould doe ſo vyild ane deid

For deid wald leſt bot for ane ſeſſoun
and pas ſone with celeritie
the vyile and filthie blot of treſſoun
wald ſtaine his haill poſteritie
Wer it to doe he wald reſſaue thame
and he nor nane ſould neuer have thame

So treſſoun is no Scottiſche gyſe
To terme it ſo ȝe haue no ground
Sen heir afflictit wichtis alwyſe
hes euer ayd and favo*ur* found
Althocht ſum trato*uris* be ama*n*g ws
In blaming all forſuith ȝe wrang ws.

ȝe ſould not all the realme detract
nor Impute falſet to o*ur* kynd
ſen monye with that filthie fact
ar ſoir offendit in thair mynd
and to avenge it wald be glaid
Will ȝe concur ȝe ſall have ayd.

ȝo*ur* Quene abhorris thame in hir hairt
miſlyking far thair filthie naturis
and wald be glaid to ſie thame ſmart
Lyking ȝe treaſoun bot not ȝe trato*uris*
ſcho knawis thay did it not for love
It wes hir gold that did thame move.

Wald ȝe doe for ȝo*ur* countrie man
as for o*ur* hono*uris* caus we wald
We ſall avenge it on that clan
ȝour freind that to the ſcambillis ſauld
So prŭif and deid ſall teſtifie
ȝour kyndnes and o*ur* honeſtie.

finis.

Ane Schort Inveccyde maid aganis the delyuerance of the erle of Northūberland.

Quhat faithfull hairt dois not for ſorrow burſt
To heir thair realme blaſonit and blaſphemit
And of all other countreis comptit as accurſt
diſcreditit, diſdainit, and diſeſtimit
And men ȝair*of* as doubill tratoŭris demit
and taxit with ſo mŏnye ſchamfull blot
ſo poyntit out and from all faithfull flemit
ſaying avoyde the fals diſſaitfull Scot.

Avoide thay bid thay fals and filthie trato*urís*
ſo generallie we ar of ſtraingeris ſtylit
and repute of ſa fals miſchevous natŭris
as na man may beleif ws vnbegylit
God wait how we ar ralit on and revylit
and blamit for monye treſſounis moniefauld
and quhat Inveccyde ballatis ar compylit
Sen ȝe gud erle North*u*mberland wes ſauld.

Alace quhy ſould not wit and worthines
honeſtie, hono*u*r, and humilitie
aſſuagit ſumquhat have ſic gredines
that paragon of trew nobilitie
and perfyte patroun of civilitie
ſo courtes ſtout, trew, liberall and kynd
ſould have bene quyte w*i*t*h* moir fidelitie
and have with mercye movit ȝo*u*r mynd.

LXII.] 94

That loving lord ſa voyde of all diſpyte
Of Vertewis having ſic pluralitie
In honeſt paſtyme takand his delyte
with monye rair and princlie qualitie
ſo nobill port and liberalitie
ſic hardines and hairt heroicall
Deſ$erŭit rather Immortalitie
then to haue had ane end ſo tragicall.

Alace that euer Scotland ſould haue bred
ſic to thy awin diſhono*ur* ſchame and greif
That quhen ane nobill man wes thairto fled
at neid to ſeik ſum ſucco*ur* and releif
ſould have bene coulpit twyiſe firſt be ane theif
Then be lochlevin quho did thrie ȝeir him keip
That gat greit gaine to ſaue him from miſcheif
Syne ſauld him to the ſkambillis lyik ane ſcheip.

Our anteceſſ*ouris* and fatheris honorabill
could not be movit be favo*ur* force nor feir
To doe ane deid ſo vyle and deteſtabill
and mekill les for gredines of geir
as be o*ur* ſtoreis plainlie dois appeir
bot oft Incurrit monye doutfull daingeris
and oft tymes baid ȝe haſard of ȝe weir
for ȝe reſſet and ſuccouring of ſtraingeris.

Greit lordis and erlis ȝe dyuers dŭikis and kingis
for quhome ȝis realme hes ſufferit mekill paine
exylit from ȝ*air* countreis and thair ringis

94 b [LXII.

In Scotland ſaiflie lang tyme did remaine
As Richard and henrie the ſext makis plaine
And monye ma exampillis may be gevin
of quhome thay micht haue gottin gretar gaine
Quhoſe luk wes gud thay come not in Lochlevin.

Fy on the Mar that euer thow conſentit
ane nobill man ſa falſlie to diſſave
Thow may weill leif quhill thow at lairge repent it
And ȝou trowit mᶜgill that drũnking knaif
Or dũmfermling that the ſic coũnſall gave
or had to doe with Mortoũnis fellowſchip
Lowſe lyndſay ȝit did better with ȝe laif
That tũik *ȝair* geir and lũit thame ſelfis ſlip.

Fals miſcheant Mortoun febill and vnkynd
thy wretchit hairt could neuer ſchame eſchew
How could ſo ſmall ane ſowme haue movit ȝour mynd
be this vyild act auld treſſounis to renew
thow neuer wes vpricht truſtie nor trew
to freind, to ſo, nor to na other man
on ſic vyild treaſoun vengeance man enſew
on the and all thy fals degenerat clan.

Lochlevin that wes ay faithles to thy brother
To quhome thow wes ſo bound be benefeit
How could thow keip thy credit to ane other
that ſchamefullie aganis his will and wit

LXII.] 95

The air of Buchane quhom he did co*mm*mit
to thy keping put in thy brotheris bed
and ſen his deith him to diſhono*ur* ȝit
hes raſit ane ſchamefull ſu*mm*moundis to heir red.

Thow left him falflie in aduerſitie
and all his freindſchip vtterlie refuſit
and work bŭir witnes of thy loyaltie
Quhen that ye Quene wes in the Louche Incluſit
Baith hir and him thow tratȯurouſlie abuſit
and gave gud tryell of thy lytill treuth
Quhen ſcho eſcapit how could thow be excuſit
Bot thair wes ſlicht or ellis ane wilfull ſleuth.

ȝit trato*ur* this vnhoneſt bludie blok
ſurpaſſis far thy treſſounis all of auld
Quhair euer thow gangis thow art ane gaſing ſtok
for all the peopill cryis cŭm and behauld
The trato*ur* that ye gud lord perſie ſauld
wiſſing his bluid to be vpon thy heid
from age to age thy treaſoun wilbe tauld
and be ane ſchame for euer to thy ſeid.

Iudas that ſauld o*ur* ſaluiour to be ſlaine
ane vyler draucht nor thow did neuer draw
nor ganȝelon aganis Charles the maine
nor andro bell that wicked vyld outlaw

95 b [LXII.

Nor ȝit the tratour Eckie of ye hairlaw
that ſayis he ſauld him to redeme his pledge
ȝour deid is war as all the warld dois knaw
ȝe can nothing bot covatice alledge.

ȝit ſen the act wes ſo Inordinat
and it behŭiffit be cheif tratouris to be
I wait ȝe wer thairto preordinat
not be ane chance bot fatall deſtanie
that nane it could have execute bot ȝe
for quha ȝo*ur* nature cleirlie vnderſtandis
will think ane act of ſo greit villanie
behovit of force to fall into ȝo*ur* handis.

As meteſt merchand for ane Maiſter ſteik
Baith fals of kynd and in the craft expert
and *yair*by garris ȝo*ur* kitchingis daylie reik
na other men could haue found in thair hairt
To ſell the ſaikles as ane ſlauchter mairt
had Chriſt him ſelf bene in the Perſeyis rowme
I wait ȝe wald haŭe playit Iudas pairt
gif Cayphas had offerit ȝow ye ſowme.

ȝit for ȝo*ur* miſchea*n*t and miſchevous deid
the coŭntrey aucht not for to beir the blame
Bot onlie that fals and degenerat ſeid
of douglaſſis fals wratchit and infame
And cheiflie mortoun and lochlevin be name
and of his bluide reſavit ye pygrall pryce

So with ye ſiluer ſall ȝe haue ye ſchame
and ſic ȝour freindis as gave *yair*to advyiſe.

O cruell fals diſſaitful bludie beiſtis
To faythfull men how dar ȝe hauld vp face
How could ſic treſſoun breid into ȝo*ur* breiſtis
Quhy leit ȝe not pitie rather haue place
Sen ȝe ȝo*ur* ſelfis wes in ye ſamy*n* caice
and wait not quhen *yair*to ȝe ſall returne
his bluide ſalbe on ȝow and all ȝo*ur* race
and ȝe and ȝouris ſall for that murther mŭrne.

Had ȝe him gevin but pryce gratŭitlie
be benefeit ȝow thinkand *yair*to bound
or to declair ȝo*ur* lŭif and amitie
ſo that no proffeit ſould to ȝow redound
ȝour crueltie had not bene ſo eŭill found
Bot ȝe reſſauit ye pryce and it procurit
eŭill gottin gaine is ane vngratious ground
q*uhai*ron to found ane welth and weill aſſurit.

The Iewis wald not put in *yair* co*m*moun purſ̄
The pryice of Chriſt q*uhi*lk Iudas kaiſt againe
The pryice of bluid bringis ay with it ane curſ̄
q*uhi*lk on thy race for euer ſall remaine
Sum day be ſŭire thocht thow ſic dome diſdaine
Deir of his bluid ye bargane wilbe bocht

Vengeance will wirk and will not licht in vaine
bot the thy hous, and name ſall bring to nocht.

Out of thy hand his bluid ſalbe requyrit
Thow ſall not chaip miſcheif doe quhat thow can
nor thay that in that blok with ȝe conſpyrit
Cheiflie the bucheris of thy bludie clan
Quha vantis be bluid thay all thair worſchip wan
and ȝit be bluid mair proudlie dois pretend
Be bluide thay leifit, be bluide thay firſt began
and ſo for bluide ſall haue ane bludie end.

finis.

Ȝe hevinis abone with heavinlie ornamentis
extend ȝour courtingis of ȝe criſtall air
To aſũir colour turne ȝour elementis
and ſoft ȝis ſeaſoun quhilk hes bene ſchairp and ſair
Command the cluddis that thay diſſolue na mair
nor ws moleſt with miſtie Vapouris weit
for now ſcho cummis the faireſt of all fair
The mundane mirrour of maikles margareit.

The myildeſt may the mekeſt and modeſt
the faireſt flour ȝe freſcheſt flouriſching
The lamp of licht of ȝouth the luſtieſt
The blytheſt bird of bewtie maiſt bening
groundit with grace and godlie governing
As A per C / aboue all elevat.

To quhome

To quhome comparit is na erthlie thing
nor with the goddis ſo heichlie eſtimat.

The goddes diana in hir hevinlie throne
evin at the full of all hir maieſtie
Quhen ſcho belevit that dainger wes *ȝair* none
Bot in hir ſphere ascending vp maiſt hie
Vpon this nymph fra that ſcho caiſt hir ei
Bluſching for ſchame out of hir ſchyire ſcho flippis
Thinking ſcho had bene phœbus verelie
At quhoſe dep*ar*t ſcho fell into the eclipſs.

The Aſteres cleir and torchis of the nicht
Quhilk in the ſterrie firmame*n*t wer fixit
fra thay perſavit dame phœbes loſt hir licht
Lyik diamontis with criſtall perlis mixit
They did diſcend to ſchyne this nymph a*n*nixit
Vpon hir ſchoulderis twinkling euerie on
Quhilk to depaint it wald be ouer prolixit
How thay in ordo*ur* gliſteris on hir goun.

Gif ſcho had bene into the dayis auld
Quhen Iupiter the ſchap of bull did tak
Befoir europe quhen he his feit did fauld
Quhill ſcho throw courage clam vpon his bak
Sum greater magik I wait he had gart mak
Hir to haue ſtollin be his ſlichtis quent
for to haue paſt aboue the zodiak
As quein and goddes of the firmament.

With goldin ſcho*uris* as he did clemene
He wald this virgine furteouſlie deſave
Bot I houp in the goddes hemene
Quhilk to hir brother ſo happie fortoun gave
That ſcho ſalbe exaltit by the laif
Baith for hir bewtie and hir nobill bluid
and of my ſelf ane ßeruand ſcho ſall have
Vnto I die and ſo I doe conclud.

finis ꝙ. *A. Montgomrie.*

Lŭiffaris leif of to loif ſo hie
ȝo*ur* ladyes and thame ſtyill no mair
But peir the erthlie E per ſie
and flour of feminine maiſt fair
Sen thair is ane without compair
Sic tytillis in ȝo*ur* ſanges deleit
and prayſß the pereles preclair
Montgomrie maikles *margareit.*

Quhoſe port and pereles pulchritud
fair forme and face angelicall
Sua meik and full of manſuetud
With vertew ſupernaturall
Makdome and proper me*m*beris all
Sa perfyte and with Ioy repleit
prŭiffis hir but peir or peregall
of maid*is* the maikles margareit.

LXIV.] 98

Sa wyſe in ȝouth and verteous
ſic reſſounis for to reull the reſt
As in greit age wer m*ar*velous
Sua manerlie myld and modeſt
Sa grave ſa gratious and digeſt
and in all doingis ſa diſcreit
The maiſt bening and bonieſt
Mirro*ur* of madinis m*ar*gareit.

Pigmalion that ane portrato*ur*
be painting craft did ſo decoir
Him ſelf *ȝair*with in paramo*ur*
fell ſuddanlie and ſmert *ȝair*foir
Wer he alyve he wald deploir
His folie and his love forleit
This fairer patrone to adoir
of maidis the maikles margareit.

Or had this nymphe bene in theſe dayis
Quhen Paris Iudgit in Helicon
Venŭs had not obtenit ſic prayis
ſcho and the goddeſſs ilkone
Wald have preferrit this paragon
as marrowit but matche moſt meit
The goldin ball to brŭik alone
merveling in this Margareit.

Quhoſe nobill birth and royall blŭid
Hir better natŭre doit exceid

Hir native giftes and graces gud
Sua bonteouſlie declairis Indeid
As waill and wit of womanheid
That ſa with vertew dois ouerfleit
Happie is hie that ſall poſſeid
In mariage this margareit.

Helpe and graunt hap gud hemene
Lat not thy pairt in hir inlaik
Nor lat not doulful deſtanie
Miſhap or fortoun worke hir wraik
Graunt lyik vnto hir ſelf ane maik
That will hir honour luif and treit
and I ſall ſerve him for hir ſaik
fairweill my Maiſtres Margareit.
A. M.

With ſiching ſad and ſurging ſorrow ſoir
My cairfull corps richt peteouſlie oppreſt
and wrappit in wo desyring no thing moir
Then dolent deith ȝe ſamyn ſould haue in haiſt
By cours of nature luiking for ſum reſt
Quhen fair Venus the bewtie of the nicht
Had ſet hir face direct into the weſt
I proſtrat law and thus cloſit my ſicht.

Into my ſwuning flŭmring as I lay
moſt feirfull formes did ſoir aſſault my thocht

The roring of ȝe raiging ſeyis gray
Quhilk boreas blaſt from bank to bray had brocht
The thundring doun of cannounis warlie wrocht
as did appeir maid hevin and erthe to ſchaik
for to expande my dreame all meinis I ſocht
quhen I awoŭk with monye a cruell crak.

Sŭmtyme the ſcripturis in my hand I volue
gif happelie I could find ſuche a caice
Sŭmtyme vaine wryteris red I to reſolue
me of my foliſche fantaſie allace
Sumtyme I call the michtie god for grace
That I micht have the ſpreit for to perſaue
Quhat miſterie apperit in that place
Or gif my wittis waik did me diſſave.

Voluing this way into my maucles mynd
Perhaps I hard ane cative full of cair
To weping prone to murning ſoir inclynd
from blyithnes baneiſt drawin to diſpair
Creuſa kynd to hir wes na compair
nor phaetuſa nor murni*n*g phaeton
quhoſe tyrit viſage ſumtyme wes preclair
my feirfull dreame did perfytlie expone.

Hir trimbling teiris did repreſent the Iawis
of neptŭnis raige q*uhi*lk raſit bene by raine
Hir ſiching braith the budding blaſt that blawis

quhen boreas liſt to prove his power plaine
hir voice ſo rauk with reuthfull roir againe
moſt lyik the thundring thuddis of cannoun din
affrayit me ȝit wald I not refraine
Bot kepit me cloſe my cabinat within.

This piteous wicht werid and woe begon
Teare all hir hair that ſorrow wes to ſie
And as the drope of water weris the ſtone
ſo dentit wer hir cheikis cruellie
By trimbling teiris diſtilling Ithinglie
out from hir eis lyik flowing ſtremis of raine
for to behauld hir dolour outwardlie
wes to my hairt ane Inwart heavie paine.

Hir bodye ſmall wes widderit and berent
as is the ſtaik quhilk ſomeris drouth oppreſt
hir viſage pale declarit hir to be ſchent
In ſichis and ſobbis repoſit wes hir reſt
hir febill handis togidder oft ſcho preſt
with reuthfull roir that echoit in the ſky
In doulfull dŭill this cairfull cative weſt
ȝeit furth hir plaint with monye ane cruell cry.

Thus hering hir bewailing all hir wo
In ſtudie ſtill ane lytill quhyle I ſtuid
Bot quhen I ſaw hir deidlie dŭill wes ſo
and ſchǫ of Ioy and confort wes denude
To ſpeik to hir a lytill thocht me gude

Gif my word micht ſolace to hir mak
or gif I micht hir cair ſum p*ar*t ſeclude
With doulfull voice this way to hir I ſpak.

In wrape tha woes quhat wicht that euer ȝe be
and ſtint in tyme To ſpill thy ſelf but plaint
Till quhat thow art from quhence for ſuir I ſie
Thow may not duire with ſorrow thus attent
And with that word hir face with teiris beſprent
ſcho liftit vp and proſtrat q*uhai*r ſcho lay
with heavie hairt with monye a piteous plaint
And wofull ſtound ſcho thus begane to ſay.

Alace I wretche quhom thus thow heiris bewaill
am bot a mortall murning my miſchance
quhome dŭill and dolo*ur* daylie dois aſſaill
Intoxicat with ſorrowis poyſonit lance
All tyme and ho*uris* I mak obedience
Vnto that wofull maiſtres of miſcheif
Is no remeid ſaif onlie patience
And houp the health and haiſt of my releif.

And I am cŭm my drerie deſtanie
and lukles lot for to bemone with thoſe
Quhome fortoun in this neſt of miſerie
To be ȝe mirro*ur* of miſhap hath choſe
Vpon ȝe onlie god we aucht repoſe
for all thingis feidis that we doe think most ſŭir.

The bad abydis the beſt ay ſoneſt gois
Then men may ſie no erthlie thing can dŭir.

Then quhat ar we to truſt into o*ur* ſtrenth
our wiſdome wit or ſtaittis variabill
Quhilk tyme will chainge and als devoir at lenth
Thocht by fortoun it wes not chaingabill
This warld is bot ane vaill moſt miſerabill
To dolent deith ſubdew with bitter ſcho*uris*
Quhilk makis me weip ane freind w*ith* murni*n*g vaill
amang the muſes nuriſchit with thair flo*uris*.

Quhoſe vertewis rair pallas may ſoir lament
all thocht I pas thame ouer with ſecreit thocht
The wit the wiſdome als that Involent
ſcho may deploir gif that avaleth ocht
Iuſtice thy ſword befoir thy face is brocht
quhilk he did clein ay keip with kyndlie cair
and faith thow wantis ane piller ſuirlie wrocht
To beir thy throne triu*m*phand euerie quhair.

And thocht this heavinlie wichtis healthe cauſe to weip
the loſe of him that wes to thame ſo deir
Thair woundis q*uhi*lk ar bayth voyd and deip
In me alone maiſt plainlie may appeir
for I haue loſt his vertewis all ſinceir
ane piller als ane freind I want alſo
Quho wes ane reddye ſcheild & feirfull ſpeir
The ſword I want for to reſiſt my ſo.

Quhat ſall I murne my nauchtie frivoll ſtait
or ſall I ſpurne with fortounis quhirling quheill
Sum I ſuppoſe ar borne Infortunat
or ellis gud labo*uris* could not proſper ill
Sum men hes wrocht baith werlie and with ſkill
and ȝit thair labo*ur* all hes bene in vaine
and vtheris hes the warld waild at will
quho hes not taine ſuch travell for ſuche paine.

Of the firſt nu*m*ber I compt me not the laſt
To all miſhap I mein predeſtinat
for I in cruell bandis of cair am chaiſt
In priſoun ſtrang with ſorrow carcerat
q*uhair* ſtill I duill of pleſo*ur* deprivat
ane mirro*ur* maid q*uhai*rin all me*n* may find
Quha ſtryvis with nature is in ȝe eſtait
of him that ſtryvis againe the ſtreme and wind.

Thus to my lot is chanced the miſhap
q*uhi*lk In my lyfe I neuer moir did ſerve
for I wes ſuirlie trappit in the trap
Befoir I could the bad or gud diſcryve
So may I not my ſelf from woe preſcryve
Sen I wes borne evin from my motheris wombe
In flitting dolo*ur* day and nicht to ſtryve
q*uhai*rin I knaw fortoun hes maid my tombe.

Hir wofull voice no ſoner had out bred
Thais wofull wordes q*uhairwith* ſcho ſorrowed ſo
Bot ſcho alace ſoir ſicht and neuer ſtayed
ſyne fell doun flat vpon ȝe ground for wo
Quhoſe ſoir regret did ſo my ſtrenth over go
That I not wiſt q*uhair* that I did remaine
brocht fra my wittis all wer reft me fro
q*uhi*lk as I micht I gadderit ſone againe.

Then ſiching ſad I to that wofull wicht
ſen to thy lot by nature doeth p*er*tene
The ſeid of ſorrow ſonkin day and nicht
Into thy betfull forreſt ay to remaine
I as ane man with ſurging ſorrow ſlaine
Into diſpair moſt duilfullie to die
doe ſeik to confort the alace in paine
quhomto I find no helpe nor remedie.

With painfull paine thir wordes ſkairſs birſt out
Quhen I wes forcit to turne my face away
from hering of the wofull werye ſchout
that ſcho all tyme and ho*uris* did bewray
Bot as I paſt ȝis ſiching could I ſay
All men ſall die that euer draweth braith
Then ſet thy thocht on god the onlie ſtay
Thy beſt clething ſalbe the ſcheild of deith.

Sen deith is onlie the rewaird of ſin
and ſyn convoyit all erthlie wit to grave

To grave we go from grave we doe begin
quhen we begin in ſorrow reſt we crave
It that we crave we moſt of death reſave
reſaving deith we find a perfyte reſt
And perfyte reſt ane thing is beſt to have
ane bliſſit thing then deith moſt be confeſt.

Imbraſing deith we ar the lordis elect
gif we elect ane lyf efter his will
his will is trew and then will thame elect
That doeth elect *ȝair* hairt *with* treuth him till
Him till obey and all his lawis fulfill
he ſall fulfill *ȝair* hairtis haill deſyre
Lat thy deſyire than ſaid I cative ſtill
ay ſtill obey that princelie princes Impyre.

Quhoſe hie Impyire and reſtfull richt renowne
mot pleſo*ur* bring vnto all painfull wicht
All painfull wicht mot think on thy ranſoun
q*uhi*lk ranſoun brocht from darknes all o*ur* licht
O Lat that licht deſtroy that drerie nicht
q*uhi*lk nicht ſuche ſorrowis ſuddanlie me ſend
And gif ws grace to ſie that pleſand ſicht
quhilk ſicht ſall bring o*ur* cairfull cairis to end.

finis.

Ane Elagie tranſlatit out of frenche in Engliſh meter. ooooo G. H.

Is thair in erthe or hes thair euer bene
that greater ſorrow nor I doe ſuſtene
Is thair Woman ſo full of woe & mone
as I am now I trow thair be not one
or ſall thair be in onye tyme or place
that may ſo richteouſlie lament thair cace
Vnder ye sone quhilk all thing makis cleir
the phœnix bird hes nather maik nor peir
So lyke to me I trow can not be found
Quhome dolent duill With dolour ſo dois wound
I am phœnix of ladyis diſsolat
& but all caus the moſt infortunat
that is or was or zit perchance ſalbe
J am exampill of all miſerie
& he that to me cauſe of all this duill is
quhat ſall I call bot the phœnix of foullis
Alace I pleinzie not as Dido Quein
ſchot in the hairt With cupids arrowis kein
Nor ony ſic mair painfull is my pairt
quhome blind cupid hes persit w^t his dairt
ȝe ſall not heir my lamentatioun
of my luifar mak narratioun

ze sall not heir me for ane lemmand Wo
as did Sapho & monye otheris mo
Bot for ane husband quhilk is greater paine
for luiffaris With thair luifis to Remane
ar not compellit bot quhat soeuer betyide
the huſband to the deathe man euer abyide
Gud or bad or quhat sort euer he be
this is the caus of my melancolie
not that I doe him to the deid desyire
bot rather pray that god wald him Inspyire
Me to intreit as sould ane trew husband
& as he aucht & I serve at his hand
for him to serue & honour I am bent
becaus I knaw it is convenient
Becaus I knaw it is ane ſemelie thing
thocht he thairof ſchaw him self inding
& vnworthie of me & all that I can
as I am Wyife wald god that he war man
Quhat euer bewtie nature dois to me grant
J pas it over & will not of it Vant
one thing I Wait may weill be Vnderstand
our gude it is to be at his cõmand
to have sic plesour he is Vnworthie
or to ly in that bed of chastetie
of hir to him yat ay faythfull hes bene
or haue the cheirfull blenking of hir Eine

or that ane mouth so modest & plesand
sould smyll on him or call on him huſband
bot sen the lord & his eternall law
hes chairgit mè in sic ane ȝoike to draw
J not refuis at bidding for to be
Sua of frie Will he hes all this of me
ȝit notwithstanding his Ingratitude
randeris for plesour paine & ill for gude
he randers calf for my gud solid graine
for sueit meiknes nothing bot bitter paine
for faithfull treuth & for ane honest pairt
J get diſsait & doubilnes of hairt
for my chaist love & cheirfull coũtenance
J get againe bot anger & greifance
his stonie hart to fauld can not be brocht
quhome I With all humilitie haue socht
the ferce lyoun Will not his pat erect
aganis the beist that will the self subiect
Quhen Rome wes vanqueist w^t^ ane attyla baild
ȝeildit the self his cruell hairt did fauld
The blak pluto thocht he war neuer so schairpe
morpheus mouit W^t^ sueitnes of his hairpe
the hardest hairt be it aſsailzit oft
W^t^ sueit meiknes it may be makin soft
& namelie be the dulcour feminine
quhilk at all tyme ye maist motive hes bene

to gentill hairtis of onye thing alyfe
to move yair myndis maist insensative
Bot all this in his hairt can tak na place
sua he dois ſeme mair cruell in this caice
then fers lyounis or tyran barbarous
or pluto prince of the Infernall hous
Quhen I think on With quhat paine I am pynd
the fouleris malice cũmis into my mynd
Quha sueitlie tonis his instrument & sang
thairefter then he beginnis to chaunge his not
& ather cruellie dois cut thair throt
or in ane cadge inventit be Ingyne
the sillie bird full painfullie dois pyne
Evin so it is become now of me
taine in ye snair of fals subtilitie
& thocht the sillie bird into hir caidge
Wareis hir taker in hir awin langage
ȝit my nature sufferis me not to wis
Vengeance to him yat is ye caus of this
Quhat sall I doe then quhair sall J me addres
to quhome sall I my painfull wo expres
to him that is the caus of my miſcheif
that Wald him glaid & wald augment my greif
Quhat sall I than sall I ane lemmãd tak
ane ſervitour that will me ſervice mak

& in all purpois preis me for to pleis
& be pertaker of my woe & eis
thocht sum may think I war not far to blame
the contrair forbiddis my gud honour & fame
rather let ye erthe opin & swallow me
then I forȝet my god & honestie
Rather lat dolour dryve me to the deid
or I offend my god & womanheid
thairfoir all ȝe that into lyfe delyte
go hence for me I haue ȝow in despyite
of love balladis I bid not for to reid
go seik otheris gif that ȝe think to speid
J will nather haue ſeruitour nor luif
Quhat I haue promesit sall na thing me remuif
Quhair I haue promesit I sall faithfull be
& keip my treuth evin to myne enemie
Quhair sall I then pour out my bitter plaint
quhomto sall I my cruell paine lament
to pleinȝie to my parentis is bot Vaine
that quhilk is done can not be brocht againe
Quhen that ye mater wes not past remeid
O god give then thay had taine better heid
Alace quhair then wes thair experience
J prayis thair mynd bot curs thair negligence
quhy wald thay not at leist seik my consent

to freindis counsall quhy tuik thay nocht gud tent
Sua thair remẽberance dois augment my wo
to mak my plaint then quhomto sould I go
J knaw not ane bot the eternall lord
quha of my bitter paine can beir record
to the only I doe my plaint out pour
& ye I thank bayth of the sueit & sour
thow creat me & formit hes of nocht
thow hes me als to that perfectioun brocht
quhairin I am all Iustice is With the
thocht men be blind ȝit thow dois cleirlie ſie
the Iust reſsoun is patent in thy sicht
quhy thow me thoillis to be a Wofull Wicht
Quhen thou thinkis gud thow will redres my paine
& gif thow Will that I this still remaine
Jn paine & wo arme me With patience
& gif it pleis thy godlie providence
to send remeid send it In sicker sort
that efter paine I may resaue confort
With honestie without my fyne or schame
Grant this o lord in Iesus christis name.

G. H.

The Subiect.

Sen thocht is frie, think quhat thow lykis
& play thy self with thy awin consait.
let aboundance brek out bot ȝit in temperãce
preferring Wiſdome to Will, mak Vertew
of neid, Sen neceſsitie hes no law, ȝit
not doubting bot patience in end
salbe Victorious.

Sen thocht is frie, Think quhat thow will
O troublit hairt to eiſs thy paine
Thocht vnrevelit can doe na ill
Bot wordes paſt out cu*m*mis not againe
Be cairfull ay for to Invent
the way to get thy awin Intent.

To play thy ſelf with thy awin conſait
and lat nane knaw quhat thow dois mene
Houp ay at laſt thocht it be lait
To thyne Intent for to attene
Lat quhyllis it brek furth in effect
Bot ay let wit thy will correct.

Sen fũilhaiſt cu*m*mis not greateſt ſpeid
I wald thow ſouldeſt learne to knaw
How to mak vertew of thy neid
Sen that neceſſitie hes no law

The Subiect

Sen thocht is frie, think quhat thow lykis
& play thy self with thy awin consait,
let aboundance brek out bot zit in temperãce
preferring wisdome to will, mak vertew
of neid, Sen necessitie hes no law, Zit
not doubting bot patien[illegible] end
salbe victorious.

Sen thocht is frie, think quhat thow will
O troublit hairt to eis thy paine
Thocht unrebelit can doe na ill
Bot wordes past out cumis not againe
Be cairfull ay for to invent
the way to get thy allin intent.

To play thy self with thy allin consait
and lat nane knalt quhat thow dois mene
Dup ay at last thocht it be lait
To thyne intent for to attene
Lat quhylis it brek furth in effect
Bot ay let wit thy will correct.

Sen fullhaist [illegible] not greatest speid
Iwald thow souldest learne to knaw
How to mak vertell of thy neid
Sen that necessitie hes no law

MAITLAND QUARTO MS., fol. 105 b.

To face p. 214.

with patience then thow attend
and houp to Vanqueis in the end.

Iacobus Rex

Virgil his village Mantua
did prayse aboue the rest
And lucane thocht that corduba
amang all wes the best
Catullus Verone did commend
as his native countrie
& ouid to that samyn end
did sulmon magnifie
Sua euerie poet hes sum place
to prayse & to commend
for sum excellent gift & grace
that god hes to it send
Quhilk makis thair immortall fame
out throuch the warld be knawin
thair heich renoun honour & name
throw all countreis be blawin
Quha dois miſken ye praysis greit
of nobill gretia
Quha dois not knaw quhat poetis Wryte
of auld Sicilia
of pernaſsus the doubill toppis
ar nane bot hes harde tell

Quha dois not knaw the siluer droppis
of hypocrene the well
of permeſsis the water cleir
ar nane that can miſknaw
nor of the birdis bruit & beir
is maid in Tempe schaw
& ȝit thir places can not be
sa plesand & preclair
that in our tyme nor ȝit countrie
nane may be thair compair
bot prudent poetis with thair pen
hes so thair name extold
that euerie Wicht thair Vertew ken
& praysis monyefauld
then quhy sould we the praysis greit
with dark silence put doun
quhilk micht be magnifeit be Writ
of monye tour & toun
quhilk micht perchance all thir exceid
in all magnificence
gif thay wer celebrat in deid
with als greit eloquence
as for my self without J wald

Jngrat be & vnkynd
J can na mair my silence hauld
bot man put furth my mynd
to speik of the. O lethingtoun
Quhilk standis fair on Tyne
quhais worthie praysis & renoun
tranſcendis my Ingyne
Thow meritis Homer or Virgill
thy worſchip till advance
& put thy name digne & nobill
Jn dew rememberance
Thy tour & fortres lairge & lang
thy nychtbouris dois excell
& for thy wallis thik & strang
thow iustlie beiris the bell
thy groundis deip & toppis hie
Vprysing in the air
thy voltis plesand ar to ſie
thay ar so greit & fair
thy work to luik on is delyite
so clein so sound so evin
thy alryne is a mervall greit
Vpreiching to the hevin

LXVIII.] 108

O quhat plesour is to be thair
as phœbus dois Vpryise
to sie the wod & feildis fair
quhilk round about the lyis
O quhat plesour may thair be sene
as the dayis lamp dois lout
to sie thy medowis fair & grene
quhilk lyis the about
O quhat plesour is to be thair
quhen as the sone is doun
to heir the bũning of the air
& plesand evenis soune
O quhat plesour is thair & Ioy
quhen day hes lost his licht
to sie the tyme sa calme & coy
& silence of the nicht
lang tyme sould I thair remaine
or that I wereit grew
& sone sall I desyire againe
quhen I bid the ADIEV
Greit was the work to houke ye ground
& thy fundatioun cast
bot greater it Was the to found

& end the at the last
J mervell that he did not feir
quha rasit the on hicht
that na fundatioun sould the beir
bot thow sould sink for Wecht
or ellis the air sould not haue tholit
so heich for to be persit
nor ȝit ye erd for to be holit
& so deip doun be serſit
then michtie Wes that man in deid
that first the tuik in hand
& in his worke did so proceid
that he the maid vpstand
bot the to pleniſche & fulfill
& mak thy worke compleit
Quho so it richt considder will
wes worke of no les spreit
Thy beddis soft & tapeis fair
thy treitting & gud cheir
gif I the treuth wald now declair
J wait thow hes no peir
the deid it self will schaw it ay
it misteris not my pen

& thay that travellis be the Way
thay may full weill it ken
bot sic & other profeitis mo
I pas & leif behind
& only I rehers the Ioy
that I did in the find
Thy arbour & thy orchard grene
J can not pas it by
a thing maist semelie to be sene
Vnder thy wall dois ly
maist plesand place to mak repair
thairin to sit or gang
thy knottis & thy alleis fair
quhilk ar bayth braid & lang
thy buttis biggit neir thame by
sa suire but sone or Wind
maist plesand place of archerie
that euer I 3it could find
thow hes a thousand plesouris ma
that my tounge can not tell
o happie war he that micht ay
but troubill in the duell
& happie art thow sic a place

that few thy maik ar sene
bot ȝit mair happie for that race
to quhome thow dois pertene
Quha dois not knaw the Maitland bliŭd
the best in all this land
Jn quhilk sumtyme the honour stuid
& worship of Scotland
of auld Sir Richard of that name
we have hard sing & say
of his triumphant nobill fame
& of his auld baird gray
& of his nobill sonnis thrie
quhilk yat tyme had no maik
Quhilk maid Scotland renoumit be
& all England to quaik
quhais luiffing praysis maid trewlie
efter that simpill tyme
ar soung in monye far countrie
albeit in rurall ryme
& gif I dar the treuth declair
& nane me fleitschour call
J can to him find a compair
& till his bairnis all.

FINIS.

LXIX.] 110

Intill ane morning mirthfulleſt of may
or phœbus bemis did gleit aganis the weſt
I rais and ſaw the feildis fair and gay
Syne to ane riŭer ſyde anone me dreſt
Quhair as the Merle & maveis mirrieſt
and lark thair nottis maiſt curiouſlie did ſing
Thay birdis blyithe with angell voice poſſeſt
maid all the hevinis abone me for to ring.

Depaintit wer the feildis with all kynd hewis
by dame Nature that luſtie ladye ſchene
The ſyluer droppis of dew hang on the bewis
Lyik orient perle in gold quhilk ſet hathe bene
The holſome air the firmamen̄t ſerene
And bliffull blenkis of phœbus beamis bricht
bad me go ſleip on florais mantill grene
Quhome to reſiſt I no wayis could nor micht.

Heirfoir I vewit the feildis baith daill & ſchaw
quhair I ane place maiſt pleſand micht eſpy
and ſo perhaps ane grene medow I ſaw
quhair all wes blyith that ſprang vp neir hand by
furthward I went and thidder come in hy
amang thay ſmelling flouris me to repoſe
Quhair morpheus his mantill ſuddanlie
did on me ſpred ſyne did my eeis cloſe.

Into my dreame behauld q*uhai*ras I lay
firſt did appeir within ane lytill ſpace
Two luſtie hairtis the lyik befoir that day
I neuer ſaw Into no land nor place
With hornis greit & pleſand weill maid face
Syne thame betuixt ane lyoŭn woundit ſair
Thay bŭire crying with voces rauk and hace
Keip reull in haiſt and leif thir feildis fair.

Thay me demandit gif I wald aſſent
With thame to go thair laſoris for to ſie
With aŭreit termis and ſtyle moſt eloque*n*t
Thay maid me ſone to thair aſſent aggrie
So vp I rayſs and furth the wayis went we
Thay me convoyit into ane gardene grein
q*uhai*r euerie plant and wod micht callit be
that ſpred vpon thay brañchis micht be ſein.

Marie I thocht in this wod did appeir
mait land and gold ſcho gave aboŭndantlie
Syne in hir hand ane flouriſhit trie did beir
q*uhai*rin wes writtin with letteris properlie
This is in ſing of trew Virginitie
Quhilk I haue ſocht and luiffit beſt of all
Heirfoir I ſall with cair moſt diligentlie
ſuſtein ȝe ſame that it reſſaue no fall.

This pleſant plant pereles but paragone
ſtŭid on ane rŭit of ſemelie ſickernes
the bark ȝair*of* wes fair proportion
The bodye haill wes lŭiffŭm lawlines
The hairt but dreid wes maid of faythfulnes
The blomes quhyte and reid wes bewtie bricht
The braŭnche and leifis wer all of propernes
Weill wrocht for till allŭire all erdlie wicht.

In quhoſe crope ane pleſand ſicht thair wes
of ladyis fair as phœbus in mid day
for ȝair wes *Venus Iuno* and *pallas*
Minerua cleo and *terſiphone*
proserpina and *diana* the may
Dame *Beawtie* bricht and als dame *chastitie*
for to Impyire abone the reſt for ay
and laulines lay law vnder the trie.

Thir ladyis bricht on lenthe q*uhai*r as thay ſat
begouthe ane ſang to glaiddin all the ſpray
out of my dreame q*uhi*lk did me excitat
Then did I lŭik about me q*uhai*r I lay
Quhen I perſaŭit that thay wer all away
and all wes fantaſie that I had ſene
With wofull hairt then did I ſeik ȝe bray
abone the water brok q*uhai*r I had bene.

finis.

To my lordis of renoŭn
the haill peopill of rugling toŭn
Burgeſs merchandis and Indwellaris
Craftiſmen officeris and meit ſelleris
Riche men pŭire anis and gud ȝemen
Widowis madines and hyire wemen
honeſt matronis and gud wyffis
ȝoŭng men & ȝoŭnko*uris* that ſindill ſtryffis
Magiſtratis and men of Degrie
ßeruandis and ſic as leiffis on fie
ſchortlie of ye toŭn the haill meinȝie
maiſt hu*m*blie to ȝow dois pleinȝie
That o*ur* traffique dois clein decay
o*ur* ſchift and gaine is quyte away
We haue no chañge within o*ur* burgh
the grein gerſs growis o*ur* ſtreittis throuch
o*ur* baxteris of breid hes no ſaill
the browſteris hes no chainge for aill
The fleſcho*uris* ſkambillis ar gaine dry
the heilland me*n* bringis in na ky
The merchaundis hes no chainge of wair
the hoſtleris gettis no repair
The Craftiſmen ar not regairdit
The prenteiſboyis ar not rewairdit
The ſtabilleris gettis na ſtabill feis
The hyire weme*n* gettis na babeis
The hors boyis ar hurt of *ye ir* wage
thair is na proffeit for a page

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Schortlie ȝair is na thing within
the court of ſtraingeris is ſa thin
And all this ſorrow and miſcheif
is nather cum of huire nor theif
nor be the force of enemeis
nor be privat conſpiraceis
Bot becaus men hes lattin doŭn
the fair and mercat of our toŭn
I mein ȝe mercat of our hors
quhilk nather cummis to port nor cors
nor to the croft our toun beſyde
quhair monye ane wes wount to ryde
at gud Sanct Lukis noble fair
quhair monye nobill did repair
and for ȝe werie winter tyide
for riddin hors did thame provyide
for thame and all thair cumpanie
that it wes pleſour thame to ſie
Bot now ȝe nobillis takis na forſs
and cairis not for riddin horſs
on horſs thay will no money ſpend
bot ſpairis it till ane other end
Swa neuer is ſein intill our toun
Lord, laird, burgeſs or Barroŭn
and quhair ȝat mony gay gelding
befoir did in our mercat ling

now ſcantlie in it may be ſene
Twelf gait glydis deir of a prein
This cu*m*mis not as we conſidder
that men to travell now ar ſlidder
for monye now ſo biſſie ar
quhidder ȝe traŭell neir or far
go befoir or byid behind
ȝe ſall thame ay in ȝour gait find
Thocht na thing to thame *ȳair* p*er*tene
ȝit thay will ay be biſſie ſeine
nor ȝit thay this cair and paine
on fute traveland on the plaine
bot rydis richt ſoftlie on a meir
weill mountit in *ȳair* ryding geir
The richt reſſoun then till eſpy
quhy riddin hors men will not by
Is that thay get ane meir onbocht
and ſua thay think thay ryide for nocht
and thinkis it wer ane fooliſh act
on riddin hors to ſpend *ȳair* pak
havand ane ȝad at *ȳair* co*m*mand
to ryide on baith in burgh and land
This wicked meir ſa weill thame ſtaikis
and amblis with thame in ȳe glaikis
that quha to hir dois anis him hant
thairefter he can not hir want
for ſcho ſo gloriouſlie dois ryide

that ſcho thame puffis vp with pryide
be thay anis mountit on hir bak
Thay think in thame thair is no lak
Thair meit doublet dois thame reioyiſs
Thay ſpred abrod thair buffit hoiſs
Thay tak delyte in nedill wark
Thay gloir into thair ruffit ſark
Thair lytill bonet or braid hat
ſumtyme heiche and ſũmtyme plat
waittis not how on thair heid to ſtand
Thair glŭiffis perſũmit in thair hand
helpis mekill thair countenance
Et toute eſt a la mode de france
Thair dry ſcarpenis baith trim and meit
thair mŭillis glitterand on *ȝair* feit
Thair gartenis knottit with a roiſs
puttis all the laſſis in thair choiſs
Thay ſnyte thoght thair na miſter be
That ȝe may thair trim naipkin ſe
and gif ȝe richtlie it conſidder
the goldin knappis ſall hing togidder
Quhen as thay talk of onye thing
all tendis to thair awin loving
Wald ȝe eſteme thame be thair crakis
Thay wer Cæſar in weirlie actis

for lordlie liberalitie
Thay gaine bot kingis for to be
Thair riches as thame ſelfis dois coŭnt
King Creſus threſour will ſurmount
Vnto thair taillis quha liſt attend
thay knaw all to the warldlis end
Gif ȝe will trow all that thay tell
In euerie thing thay doe excell
Thir ar the faſſioŭnis as I leir
Of men that ryidis on the meir
The wemen als that on hir ryidis
Thay ma*n* be buſkit vp lyik bryidis
Thair heidis heiſit with ſilkin ſaillis
With clairtie ſilk about *ȝair* taillis
Thair goŭnis ſchent to ſchaw thair ſkin
ſuppois it be richt oft full dŭn
To mak thame ſmall *ȝair* weiſt is bound
a bŭiſt to mak *ȝair* bellie roŭnd
Thair buttokis bouſterit vp behind
a fartigard to gadder wind
Thair hoiſs maid of ſum wantoun hew
and quhen thay gang as thay not knew
Thay liſt *ȝair* goun abone thair ſchank
ſyne lyik ane bryidlit cat ȝaj brank
Sum taunting wordes thay haue parqueir
That ſeruis thame in all mateir

114 b

LXXI.] 115

My ladyis pulchritud
hes me so plonged in paine
that mard in mynd & muid
mirthles I man remaine
Vnles that fluid
of graces gud
be mansuetud
my rest restoir againe.

Blind boy thou dois so beir
my fortoun in ballance
J flow from houp to feir
from feir till esperance
Now thair now heir
now peace now Weir
chainging my cheir
as chaingis ay my chance.

As in ye Wind I wie
ay wauering With the wechtis
feir wald force fayth to flie
& faith with fortoun fechtis
& yis ze se is my degrie

now low now hie
as houp gud hap me hechtis.

Zit houp hingis be ane hair
houping aganis all houp
albeit from cair to cair
thou catche my hairt in coup
zit mair & mair
I lyik thy lair
& for no sair
nor sorrow can I soup.

nd hap I apprehend
Be houp I wait not how
& pertlie I pretend
& preis aganis the prow
& ay intend
that way to wend
& in the end
for to attein I trow.

finis.

Gif faithfulnes ȝe find
and that ȝo*ur* mynd co*n*tent
Ane band heirby I bind
of firme fayth and ſerue*n*t
and to be p*er*mane*n*t
for ocht that may befall
my hairt heir I preſent
In pledge perpetuall.

Quhilk ſimplie I reſing
as hoſtage in ȝo*ur* hand
and willinglie it bring
to bind it in ſic band
as pleſis ȝow co*m*mand
to left till I may leif
quhilk is the gadge and pand
maiſt ſ̃ir that I ca*n* geif.

Reſaue it then and treit it
as treuth ſall try my p*ar*t
gif I be fals forleit it
and let me ſuffer ſmert
deill efter my deſert
than dreid I no diſdaine
bot houpis to haue ane hairt
In reco*m*pence againe.

Gif loyaltie may love
ane reco*m*pance p*ro*cũire
Or honeſt mening move
3our favo*u*r to Induire
gif lawtie 3ow alluire
or conſtance mak 3ow kynd
firme faith ſall me aſſũire
and treuth content 3o*u*r mynd.

finis.

Ane prayer.

O lord in heavin above that rewlis all
Quhoſe merceis greit Indŭiris for euermoir
O god of hoſtes to the I call therfoir
Whoſe bliſſit name I prais and eŭer ſall
Becaus thow ſet me frie quhen I wes thrall
To the Iehoua great and lord moſt hie
to the my god for ſuccour I doe flie
graŭnt me o lord grant me in mynd and ſpreit
to doe thy will
and ſo fulfill
thy lawis my god with humble hairt contreit.

Befoir the glanſing day doeth ſchaw his face
my ſaull doeth ſtay and watche for ȳe o lord
and all the nicht on the I doe record
befoir the morning bricht I aſk for grace
deploring all my wofull ſinnes alace
heir me my lord heir me my god and king
Thow art of mercie great thow art bening
Thair is no ſtrenth nor help but only thow
for firme and ſŭire
thow dois Indŭire
To ſinneris all that willinglie dois bow.

Cŭm ſinneris now the lord doeth on ws call
cum all with me cum pray with one conſent

cŭm cŭm in tyme and doe o*ur* ſinnis repent
cu*m* now with humble hairtis ȝe wretchis all
befoir oŭr god for mercie lat ws fall
he is the god that heiris the penitent
he is of natŭre ſlaw to pŭniſhment
he will ws ſave and in his merceis tak
throuch chriſt his ſonne
Who ſittis abonne
He will ws ſaŭe, ȝea for his onlie ſaik.

With heavie hairt thairfoir to god alone
To the o lord I mak my plaint and cry
with humble hairt lo proſtrat I doe ly
To the I call to the I mak my mone
with ſobs and ſighs with bitter tearis I grone
heir me thairfoir heir me o lord I ſay
to the I flie to the I rin and pray
graŭnt me at laſt graŭnt me a ſinner pŭir
that all the maſs
of my treſpaſs
Thow will forȝet and maik me euer ſŭir.

What mortall man is he o lord that can
thy merceis comprehend ſo monyfauld
What ſinfull wratche is he that dar be bauld
thy ſecreittis lord for to vnfauld and ſkan
o ſimple ſaul o wretche o wicked man
thy awin conſait lat be thy fond pretence

Submit thy ſelf with all dew reuerence
and graŭnt the lord ȝea all that is his richt
in mynd him beir
ſie thow him feir
and vnto him maik haiſt with all thy micht.

O that I could ſet fourth thy prais aricht
and thame in mynd to beir for euermoir
o happie thryiſß that thame can keip in ſtoir
o happie moſt if that with all our micht
we meditat thairin boith day and nicht
graunt lord therfoir graunt father deir to me
quhen lyfe is paſt thy endles gloir to ſie
for heir o lord thair is no thing can ſtand
Vnles thow plaice
with ws thy graice
and ws defend with force of thy richt hand.

My god is onlie he quhom on I ſtay
all warldlie thingis as vaine I will reiect
Thay ar but licht and thingis of nane effect
quhairfoir on the my hoill repois I lay
Refuis me not thow art my god for ay
and ay ſalbe whill braith and lyf dois leſt
my mynd ſall neŭer ſuerve I doe proteſt
Vnto the lord my god now will I ſing
for euer moir
be prais and gloir
to the o lord that ſitts in heavin as king.

finis.

In prais of ane Gentle woman.

To prais that perfyte is the labo*ur* wer but vain
to feik to pas the painters art, but lytill wer my gain
3it if I could performe, that dewtie bindis as dew
in fimple ftyle as beft I micht, this worthie work perfew
then wald I taik In hand, that now dois pas my fkill
to prais the pafsing bewtie brave, q^{lk} now aganis my will
perforce I man be dŭm, and fo contentit be
and onlye leif by lŭiking on, till farther happin me
but love dois fo me move, and houp fayis doe thy beft
behauld 3one faice that thow dois fie, in it falbe thy reft
fay on thairfoir be bauld, and lytill as thow can
fet furth hir prayfis worthelie & vow thy felf hir man
3e heavinlie goddis above, 3e moft celeftiall
Vnto my mŭfe 3o*ur* earis doe bend, & for 3o*ur* help I call
give me pernafsus ftyll, and als mont edees fmell
with water helicon to drink, or els pegafus well
3e loveris then that boift to ferve with loyaltie
3our ladyis fair as 3e fuppon, now lift a whyll to me
my ladie I dar vow, in bewtie all doeth pas
and for hir cu*m*lie courtlie graice may be 3o*ur* luiking glas
Dame vertew in hir hairt, with pitie taikis *ȝair* place
and whofoeuer on hir lŭikis, dois prais hir noble grace
remors and te*m*perance dois hir accu*m*panie
and from hir ftaitlie prefence dois all filthie vycis flie
no virtew fho dois want fho is both trew and kynd
in conftancie no matche alyfe & fayt*h*fulnes of mynd.

and now
I am hir awin, quhat than it is the onlye thing I crave
ſcho will me not refuis I knaw, quhat farther wauld I have.
finis.

Of ane Vnthankfull freind.

Vnto a freind I proferd once gud will
thinking thairby to play a freind him till
but now to lait thairof I me repent
ſince he for doing ſo hes maid me ſchent
quhairfoir the proverb auld I put in vre
quhen ſtead is ſtollin then ſteik the ſtable dŭre
quhilk cauſis me full oft to call and cry
what fuill What beaſt, what ſimple ſaull wes I
is not a truſtie freind by tryell bocht
and moir accoŭnt then ten obteynd for nocht
ȝit I am lyik ȳe blind that blamis the licht
as thocht in him thair wer no want of ſicht
for I the ſamyn freind have tryid full oft
and found his honeſtie but euer nocht
for ſo wes love by blind effectioun caſt
that ſeing wauld not ſie till at ȳe laſt
bewar of had I wiſt, I did record
and then to lait my love I did remord
for I wes lyik ȳe hen that ſkrepis the knyfe
ȝit Ignorant it ſould bereve hir lyfe.

but he dois weill thairin him ſelf declair
and als the fayth and treuth to me, he bair
and ſchawis him lyik ȝe cũr ȝat bytis the man
quhen he hes fed, and done him all he can
Quhairfoir with wit now coſt I doe proteſt
I vow I ſweir in hairt that it ſall reſt.

finis.

To his freind.

O michtie Iove that rewlis all
o king that ringis in skyis above
graunt me sum rest a wretch & thrall
if the to pitie I may move
quhat mortall wicht alyfe abydis
as I so monye turning tydis.

O happie is that mortall wicht
o happie thryis zea him J call
in love that all succeidis aricht
& neuer teaſtis of fortounis thrall
zea moir then hap it that he may
my haples haps avoyd for ay.

But I alace to tell you moir
a double dolour I induir

LXXVI.] 120

& nane but ane dois cair thairfoir
now death is nixt J you aſsuir
zit ladye leif, o ladye myne
not thou but I deſeruis the pyne.

Tak on thairfoir thy doulfull weid
cast of thy proud & staitlie hewis
tak blak it best becũmis thy heid
but cullouris mo sie thou refuis
for fortoun now hes chaingit hir face
& thou abydis in wo alace.

My awin miſhap I nothing deime
o dear to me & dear againe
Jt's the my hairt that I esteime
as for my self I cair no paine
O godis on me your yre than cast
& leive my ladye at ye last.

O ladye moir then lyfe to me
thou art the onlye foode J taist
O tisbe trew for the I die
onles that thow remaine at rest
thou art the caus of all my fall
& zit to the I am a thrall.

Thow hes no blame my faythfull hairt
it's my ill luk that troublis the
our great & wechtie is the pairt
that thou alone sould die for me
aganis my will I the aſsuir
for all of richt J sould induir.

Finis.

In prais of ane gilt bybill.

Who takis in hand by pen, to prais a wark with fame
advyſedlie ſould luik then loup, for hazard of his name
This buik all prais deſ*ſ*eruis, my prais it wer but vain
ȝit gentle reader mark I ſay, and thyne ſalbe the gain.

A cot bedect with gold and ſyluer ſtreamis it weiris
as Iuſt rewaird ye Maiſtres gave, for love to it ſcho beiris
But opin vp the ſame and lŭik with ſingle ei
Bayt*h* gliſtering ge*m*mis & pearlis of pryce, y*air* ſchyning
ſall you ſie.

finis.

Ane freindlye letter to his freind. ooooooo

The piteous plaint of heavie hairt
complaning but releif
the cruell pain of wofull smairt
deploring great miſcheif
declairis thair is no rest
but mynd full soir opprest.

Whan most of all to rest I wiſh
& greatest eis I crave
when most ſecuritie I wiſh
& greatest ioy wald have
then draweth on my paine
& sighe it dois constraine.

Wherfoir o god omnipotent
my prayer graũnt to me
& of thy wraith J pray relent
with favour thyne to ſie
that J obtene I may
the thing quhairon I stay.

For whill that braith & lyfe dois lest
J promeis & avow
that nane in hairt with me sall rest
nor thair to duell allow
but onlye thow for ay
sall thair remain & stay.

Jt sall not be the cruell spyt
of thame that workis vneis
nor zit in thame that takis delyt
to hinder with thair leis
but fayth & promeis suir
sall euer moir induir.

Persuaid thy self my faythfull hairt
J will for the abyd
in perrells all to play my pairt
& dainger set asyd
refusing not for the
the pain how great it be.

Fairweill thairfoir my hairt adew
fairweill & haue gudnicht
God graunt that we doe neuer rew
bot to haue chosin richt.

Finis.

To ane Angrie freinde.

The lyon for hir tender whelpis dois roir
and quhy? Becaus in thame ſcho ſet hir ſtoir
The turtill for the loſe of maik thay ſay
doeth neŭer reſt bot workis hir awin decay
And euerie thing that nature furth hes brought
or ȝit to licht with ſchap and lyfe hes wroght
dois ſeik to keip the thing it loves beſt
and ſo with it to leif in Ioy and reſt
but fortoun cruell and malitious
In reſt doeth ſchaw hir moſt pernitious
and quhen with countenance ſho ſmylis maiſt
then ſould ſcho have of all but credit leiſt
For quhy the turtill trew bereft of Ioy
doeth now to lait complaine for great annoy
fy on the fickill ſtait of warldlie thingis
fy on the pleſour ſchort that mŭrning bringis
ſall fayth and treuth ſall promeis firme and ſŭir
be now caſt of no langer to Indŭir
Na god forbid the ſaying meanis not ſo
thay never thocht in hairt me to forgo
and now the hand that woŭnded me ſo ſoir
ſall end the lyfe or ellis againe reſtoir.

finis.

To his freind.

The beatin bark with bloiſtrous blaſtis
and dŭnge with wavering wind
Into the port hir ſelf ſho caſtis
thair lyfe or death to find
The pilgrim wereid with tormoill
and tranſing monye a land
at lenth vnto his native ſoill
he doeth mak haiſt in hand.

The painfull pangs of paſsing pain
tormen*n*ting birthfull wombe
3it Ioyfull mirrie glaid and fain
the 3outh anis ſene at home
Thair doutfull daingers all foirpaſt
and mirth for murning ſet
Now onlye to reioyſs thay caſt
and ſorrowis all for3et.

But I alace bewrapt with wo
In laberinth I ly
And I my ſelf remanis my ſo
houping that will not be
3it who can tell the goddis remord
and me in favo*u*r taik
And thay among them ſelfis accord
on me thair yre to ſlaik.

And I obtain my fayt*h*full hairt
my onlye Ioy and grace
Remaining conſtant for my pairt
with houp for to embrace
Then I with humble hairt co*n*treit
the goddes ſall adoir
On bended kneis and hand*is* vpſet
and prais them euer moir.

Lo heir a toy and licht conſet
and loveris new devyce
Both for the auld and ſage vnfet
and alſo for the wyſe

But onlye for ane treuth and prove
to ladye maiſtres myne
for otheris all howbeit it move
I cair it not a pryne.

finis.

Ane prayer.

With weippin eis and face defigurat
my hairt to the o god I elevat
But mynd and bodye hu*m*blie doe proſtrat
and als thy glorious name I Invocat.

Acknawledging my ſinnes ſo monyfauld
that ſcarce for grace to call I dar be bauld
vnles that thow with merceis monyfauld
a wretche and ſinner pour thow doe vphauld.

O god Eternall and omnipotent
my ſinnes forgeve and let me not be ſchent
thair is no cours of ȝouthfulnes ȝit ſpent
but with thy help in tyme I may relent.

Thow ſekeſt not o Father dear I knaw
To deill with ws by rigo*u*r of the law
But rather mercie vnto ws to ſchaw
and ſo thairby to keip ws in thy aw.

Give me thairfoir ane pour and hu*m*ble ſpreit
give me my god ane mynd not counterfeit
that wordes and thochtis and all in one may meit
ſo I to the may call with hairt contreit.

My hairt and mynd to the ſall euer bend
and to thy lawis and ſtatutis eik attend
that I vnto thy ſeit divine may ſend
my ſobs my ſighis my lyfe for till ame*n*d.

Thairfoir o god I cry behauld and lo
thy holie bluid is not ȝit waiſtit ſo
but that it may help me with ſinners mo
howbeit to the I am a wretch and ſo.

Iehoua greit and lord maiſt hie
to futeſtule thyne for ſucco*u*r I doe flie
grant me o lord thy endles gloir to ſie
and ſo with angellis bricht to cu*m*panie.

finis.

To michtie Ioue above that ringis
in heavenis so hie quhair angels singis
To christ his onlie sone our lord
Who shed his bluid for euerie ſinner
To holie ghost the confort bringer
We rander thankis with one accord.

finis.

To ane Vnthankfull freind.

Ane new fairweill a ſtrainge gudnicht
of the periŭrd and ladye fals
I now will tak quho wes thy knicht
Thy fayt*h*full freind and lover als
but now from the my hairt is rent
for fayth ne treuth wes by the ment.

Thy pryde thy hicht thy arroga*n*ce
Thy wylie woordes ſall the deiect
and not as thow dois trow advance
but filthie lyfe and deidis detect
Whairwith abone all woma*n*kynd
I dar avow thow beiris in mynd.

I loved the ance I doe confes
my hairt wes thyne I did proteſt
Thow ſaid thow loved me nathing les
but me preferd above ȝe reſt
But ſo the end did weill declair
the faith and treuth to me thow bair.

Fy on the filthie faithles dame
fy on thy cruell tygirs hairt
for I am not the onlye man
to quho*m* thow playis ane whoris pairt
But hard it is to chainge thy mynd
thow boght it not ȝou heſt of kynd.

Baith treuth and promeis did thow geif
To me by fayth and aithe co*n*iurd
And ſuair that as the lord did leif
with me to reſt and die aſsuird
Quhat other ſecreit thingis *ȝair* was
Thow knaweſt thy ſelf I let thame pas.

ȝit ſum will ſay I wes bot blunt
Till wow a wedow in ſic wyſs
And namelie ane wha had bene brunt
and myndit not to hazard twyſs
gif farther wes not done in deid
thow knawis *ȝair*of thow had na neid.

But for my pairt into that game
I of my ſelf will bauldlie ſay
With wyfe or maid to play the man
In honeſtie bayth nicht and day
But for to ſatefie ane whore
Fiftene ſies I can not Induire.

Thow thinkis thow hes obteind a pray
In that a pecok thow hes taine
and me perhaps as thow will ſay
left as a ſimple ſaull alaine
A pray thow gat a pryſs of wourth
Fairweill ȝe deuill of hell go with.

He is of noble bluid I knaw
By the no hono*u*r he can get

But as a daſtard did him ſchaw
and dewtie lyik a theif forȝet
he tuik ȝe onlye for thy gear
and thow chuſt him for lance and ſpeir.

And now fairweill as I begoude
gudnicht as thow deſſeruis beſt
And ſo I end and will conclud
that luſt and avarice takis no reſt
But when that all is gone he ſought
than think his lance wes deirlie bought.

I ſendis
This Ragment lytill wourth
not caring for amendis
my mynd but to ſchaw fourth
and wiſſis everie man
to Iudge of me aright
for thair is nane that can
eſchew ane whoris ſlicht
The ſchame is hirs I ſueir
the loſſ not myne ȝe knaw
of nane ſho ſtandis na feir
nor of reproche ne aw.

FINIS.

In prais of ane buik send to his freind.

This buik who taikis in hand to reid
let thame the same peruſe
with diligence & taking heid
or ellis the same refuſe
& efter reading twyis
laith not to read it thryis.

For thingis of great & high affairs
in ſimple style he schawis
& als the end of worldlie cairs
in ſhape of beastis he drawis
aſsuir thy self thairfoir
in it of treſour stoir.

For wysest workis of all we ſie
in colours to be drawin
& so set furth by misterie
& thairin to be ſchawin
the wordes I doe not mein
but sentence to attein.

finis.

To your self.

If *sapho saige for saphic songe so sueit*
did pleid for prais & place amangs the nyne
if trustie talk with taillis so trew do meit
amids the gods dois duell that dame devyne.

And now of lait that lustie ladie rair
Olimpia o lampe of latine land
so doeth thy workes vnto this day declair
for lyflie art Who list thy Vers to ſcand.

A thrid o Maistres Marie maik J pray
& put in vre zour Worthie vertewis all
for famous is your fleing fame J say
hyd not so haŭt a hairt in ſlugiſh thrall.

This buik then bear & beat your branis therin
a plesant poet perfyte sall ye be
& lytill labour lost the laurell Win
adorn'd with cumlie croun of poeſie.

& than
for Sicophant for simple saull for ſott
maik weill, mar not, for momus cair ze not.

finis.

Ze heauinlie goddis & goddeſsis
ze most celestiall
Vnto my muſe zour helpis doe bend
& for zour aydis I call
& thow diana ladye bricht
with nymphes of chastetie
Graunt me your favours I requeist
to end this worthelie.

FINIS.

Quhen houp & hap & weill & health bene hiest
then Wo & wrack diſeis & neid bene niest.

Be War to ryiſs in ſerving princelie lust
Suirlie to stand is one meane rysing iust.

The reid in the loch sayis.

Thocht raging stormes movis ws to ſchaik
& wind makis Waters ws overflow
We zeild thairto bot dois not brek
& in the calme bent vp we grow.

So baneist men thocht princes raige
& priſoners be not diſparit
Abyde the calme quhill that it ſuaige
for tyme ſic cauſsis hes reparit.

FINIS.

Is absence is the greatest fo
that cupids clientis dois ſuſpect
lang out of sicht engendris ſo
to preſence the contrair effect
& as obliuioun dois deiect
the bŭilding of rememberance
So lak of memorie neglect
the deidis deſerving recompance.

Of abſence langour dois proceid
& langour breidis melancolie
melancolie procuiris the deid
be sindrie kyndis of meladie
Thus may I gatther eaſalie
that absence is ane homiceid
to martyre men maist cruellie
except thair be found out remeid.

Now thocht the cauſer of thir thre
langour melancolie & deid
This present tyme dois threattin me
to pour thir plages on my heid
laking that grace my caus to pleid
at bewteis bar to seik refuge
zit in ȝour Iustice I confeid
Abſence my richt sall not preiudge.

Thocht other loveris doe alledge
for to defend thair libertie
sum other cauſsis to repledge
thame ſelfis from absence tyrannie
zit into that ſecuritie
with thame J put na confidence
ſuppoſe in love my constancie
deſervis als great recompance.

To find ane trew Penelope
quhair other sum hes Wrocht in vaine
zit I beleif to find zow sa
& constanter for to remaine
Jn eaſing thus zour loveris paine
as ſcho wes to be registrat
& sua thocht absence me diſdaine
J sall Induire the last combat.

Thocht Absence be
the meladie
tormenting me
with daylie greif

Zour constancie
may remedie
Gif not: I die
without releif.

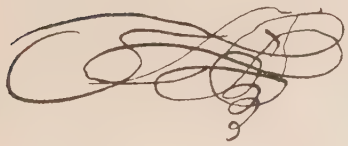
finis.

128 b

Epitaph of sir R. Maitland knight

The slyding tyme so slylie slippes away
it reaves from vs remembrance of our state
& whill we doe the cair of tyme delay
We tyne the tyde & doe lament to late
Then to eſchew such daingerous debate
Prepone for patren manly Maitland knight
learne by his lyfe to live in semble rate
With love to God religion law & right
For as he wes of vertew lucent light
of antient bloode, of noble spreit & name
Beloued of God & euerye gratious Wight
So deit he olde deseruing worthy fame
A rare example set for ws to see
What we haue bene, now ar, & ought to be.

T. H.



129 b

XCI.] 130

Ane other.

Thy surname Maitland shewes thyne antient race
thy martiall acts the cronicles display
& speake thou iustice whilst he had thy place
yf iustlye he thy ballance did not sway
He wes ay prest Gods treuth to plant alway 5
who gave him long yeares & a faithfull wyfe
his childrens children flouriſhit day by day
in Wealth he lived with honour left this lyfe
then thou who hears his birthe his lyfe & end
may say his soule to lasting lyfe is send. 10

Thus may ze sie none may from deathe refraine
but lives to die & deis to live againe.

We that him wantis may waill his death alace
wer not his worthye Imps suppleis his place.

R. H.

130 b

EPITAPHE VPON THE DEATH *of the right honorable Sir* RICHARD METLAND *Knight Lord of Leidingtoun.*

This hallow grave within her bounds dois cloſe
An worthy Knight baith valiant grave and wyſe
And in the ſame his breathles banes repoſe
Quhaſe lyflye ſpreit did warldlye things deſpyſe
Within this place the maiſt vnſpotted lyeſe
And blamles Iudge that Iuſtice did maintene
Zit from his tombe (thought he be deid) doith ryſe
The glorious praiſe to verteuous dois pertene
For in his breist quhilk wiſdome did contene
Lay ſteidfaſt treuth and vncorrupted fayth
His honest hands from brybing did abſtene
His fautles feit did marthle in honours paith
His feit, hands, breist lye buried in this grave
Bot this his Saule the heavens dois receave.

131 b

XCIII.] 132

A luid of him ſelf and his ladyie quho dyed on his burial day.

Loe heir tuo wights inburied be, off noble birth and bloud
Quha by thair death hes naturs courſe, by naturs lyne concluđ
In Mariage-band they liued long, thrie ſcoir of ȝeirs and foure
In honour maiſt contentedlye thair lyfe they did dryue ouer
Bot now hes death thair aged dayes, defaced by his dairt
And hes thair brethles Weryit corps conuoyed to this pairt
Bot ȝit quhat death hes preaſt to doe thair Loue ſo to devyde
Loue hes againe ſurmounting death, the force of death defyd.

A luid to the paſser by.

Looke to thy ſelf by vs
ſuche wer we ons as thow
And thow by tyme ſall be conſemud
to duſt, as we ar now.

132 b

In cōmendation of the Right honorable Syr Iohne Maitland of Thirlſtaine Knight Secretair to the King his maiestie.

The first visiovn.

Before my face this nyght to me appeird,
My ſilent Muſe in ſorrou all confound,
And half diſmayd, this queſtioun at me ſpeird.
Quhy doe we not his glorious praiſe reſound?
Quhaſe goodnes we beyond our hope hes found,
Quhase fauour hes ſurmounted our deſert:
And aſ he dois in pouer maist abbund:
So to our ayd the ſame he dois conuert.
O Muſe (quod I) euen with a willing hairt
I ſall fulfill this chairge with bent deſyre
So, that to me your furye ze impart,
And thir my verſe, with lerned ſkill inſpyre
For ſen I ſuld (the maist renoumd) commend
Ze lykwyse ought zour ayde and help extend.

133 b

2 VISIOVN.

Thus as I ſpak, I ſaw the Muſes nyne,
With Harpes in hand, about me ſone repair.
Sa that thair hymns, and voces maist devyne,
By ſympathie, reſonded in the air.
Sing, lett vs ſing, and by our ſangs declair
His worthye ſtock baith valiant ſtout and wyſe
From quhilk hes ſprung, of muſes all the cair,
Zea off the gods: from quhome all grace dois ryse
His father deir, quha neir his buriall lyeſs,
Ane Homer *auld, of euerlaisting fame,*
A Iudge maiſt Iuſt, and Lord, quha hes the pryſe
For conſcience pure, of ane vnſpotted name
Off prences loued, in honour lang he liuis,
Quhaſe memorie, his learned ſones reuiuis.

134 b

3. Visioun.

And heir they ſtayd, till they had drawen thair breath.
Than they began with ſchiller toons of Joy.
A uterpe *ſang; his fame ſuruiueth death.*
And clio *ſayd; no force ſal him deſtroy.*
Thalia *ſpak; lat vs our ſangs employ*
To blaiſe his praiſe, and eterniſe his glore
Polhymina *ſayde; I will, and ſall conuoy*
His conſell, witt (quhilk he heſs in greate store)
Through all the warld: and will him ſa decore;
That, as he now ſurpaſsis with his prence
In grace and loue all vthers; ſo before
He ſall thame paſs in creddit, but offence.
Lang ſal he liue, in ioy, in bliſs, and helth.
And on his bak, ſall leane this coumoun welth.

135 b

4. Viſioun.

As they did end: than Ouide from exyde
Of Pontus *cam, quhair he til death remaind*
Induiring cauld, and hounger all that quhyle
Conſeumd with woe, that August *him diſdaind.*
Alas ſayd he, in vaine have I complaind
For to aſsvuage Auguſtus *yre and wreath,*
And thought that thou, in preſoun was detaind
Zie happy thou, quho fauourd is of death.
Thy Monarch, *and thy great* Auguſtus *heth,*
Extend his grace att thy good lords requeist
Quhoſe honour thou, til waiſted be thy breath
Sall keip in mynde, within thy thankfull breist:
Thou ſall his glore, with his deſairts, proclame,
And celebrat, within the kirk *of fame.*

Muſis ſine tempore tempus.

136 b

O deith allace with dairt ſo dolorous
Quhy art thow ſo iniuſt withowt reſpect
To 3outh and eild and mid age odious
Obſcuir and noble quhy haldis thow of ane ſect
Quhat is the cauſe nane may yair nek
From thy tyrannical and inamiable 3ok
Quhy art thow ſo vnequal to neglect
Thair vertew yat diſcendis of noble ſtok.

Did thow not knaw ye maiſt excellente graces
Vnto our Knyt S Ritchard maitland geuin
Quhom of the fame is planted in all places
And reaches vp vnto the hicheſt hevin
Reioyſe now deid and hald thy heid full evin
Luik With thy piteous eine throuch all yis land
Sen thow yat perle hes cruellie from vs reuin
Vpon ye lyk yow fall not lay thy hand.

Of noble bluid he hes be lyne defended
Wantand na gift ane mortall Wycht could craif
Againſt all vyce with vertew weill defended
As Juſtice Temperance, and Pacience by the laif
Of all maiſt conſtant yat did Chriſtis Word reſſaif
With equitie and ſaytfulnes poſſeſt
As be his deuoit Death all may perſaif
And godlie liuing ſa lang as lyfe did left.

137 b

xcv.] 138

O *cruel deith thow wes nocht zit content*
To cutt yis noble Lord with thy ſcharp huik
Except his verteous Lady excellent
Thow cleik also and in thy boſome bruik
Quhom of he in his lyif ſik pleſour tuik
So joyfullie y^t nane could leif in eird
Quhy wald thow no^t vpon their vertew luik
Sine for to ſtraik thame wes no^t ſoir effeird.

Q *uhat hes thow win? Thy triumph is bot ſmall*
Vnto the nobles done is maiſt iniure
Quha ſpoyled ar of ſick ane ſpeciall
That lyk a lanterne ſchynit to thame ſuir
Nixt to yair bairnes, Kinſfolk and the puir
And to thair faithfull ſeruandis deu elk eane
Thair ſaules ar entred in att heuins duir
And for thy vglie dairtis makis na mane.

Z *e gentil men excuiſe my ruid indyit*
Quha with zour preſence ornis this funerall
It iſ of zeil that I with deith doe flyit
And mouit with ane dolour principall
For lak of cunning my verſe will ſeim rurall
Couer my ignorance and tak it in guid pairt
My will is guid my lerning is bot ſmall
My ſtrenth is nocht I haue ane willing hairt.

W *er Ihone bocace callit again to lyif*
And ſyne had no^t forzet his former ſtyle
In painted termes and rethorik flo^ris ryif
And quikned with ſum mater for a quhyle
Suffice he my^t in meter to compyle
The praiſes of yir bliſsed ſaules tway
Zit gentil men houbeid my ryme be vyle

NOTES AND VARIANTS.

THE catalogue number of the Quarto is 1408; older numberings are 812-½ and 867. There are catch-words on the versos of folios 6, 14, 22, 29, 37, 43, 51, 59, 66, 74, 80, 88, 96. By mistake two folios have been numbered 26, and two 63. Folios 114 (blank) and 116 are each followed by an unnumbered blank leaf; also the versos from 128 are blank. From fol. 131 to the end the ink is black; in all the earlier portion of the manuscript it is brown. On fol. 133 the right-hand letters of the heading, and the end of the last line, have been cut away by the binder, as also the last line (56) of fol. 138.

The following notes are mainly intended to indicate the correspondences between the Quarto and the Folio, and the extent to which pieces not in the Folio are included by Pinkerton in his *Ancient Scotish Poems*. The collation with the Folio is limited to variants which are of some importance for the text, especially those which help to make the sense clearer or to improve the metre. When the sign] is used, it is preceded by the reading of the Quarto, and followed by that of the Folio.

I. Printed by Pinkerton (p. 349), who inserts 'Sir Richard Maitland' after 'Authour.' The sonnet suggests that Sir Richard may have contemplated the publication of his poems.

II. In the Folio this piece (No. XCIV. there) is defective, and begins with line 51. Pinkerton's text (pp. 326-330) is from the Quarto throughout. 24. rewit=rew it. 72. mumschancis] mumchances. 73. dainser] dansar. 83. quin] cun. 84. keipit=keip it. 92. veluouſ)] velwet.

III. In the Folio (No. XCV.) each stanza of this piece is written in four lines. Pinkerton (pp. 331-334) prints from the Quarto. 9. in thair gait] in ȝai gett. 13. houſſ)] houssis. 30. walter] watir. 56. trowit=trow it. 60. avowit=avow it.

IV. = Folio XV. 5. in] in to. 7. and] and to. 32. counsell] counsale (rhyming with 'temporale,' 'loyale'). 60. now into this new ȝeir] heirefter mony ȝeir. 61. And] God. sceill]

skeill. 64. meit] met. 79. sa] sic. 87. Crame craikeris] Cryand crakkaris. 89. gail3eounis] galiounis.

V. = Folio XXI. 8. calsay] cassay. 16. ruffiaris] ruffyanis. 31. had] hald. 45. had] held. 71. sceill] skeill. 79. Quha is] Quhair is. 83. fa] faw (= befall).

VI. = Folio XVI., with title 'Off the Quenis Maryage with the Dolphin of France.' 3. conding] condigne. 6. maiestitie] maiestie. (The same error recurs in IX. 22, 53, XVI. 113, and LIX. 58). 9. dolphin] dalphine. 20. fercis] fairseis. 21. carrous] carrellis. 46. 3our] be 3our. 68. defend ane] defendand.

VII. = Fol. XVIII., with title 'Off the Assemblie of the Congregatioun.' In the Quarto title *thew* is an error for *new* or *the new*. 6. weir] deir (= hurt, harm). 41. g/] grace. 46. syne] syn. 60. had (= hold).

VIII. Not in the Folio. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 293-94), and in the Maitland Club (ed. p. 14).

IX. = Folio XIX., with title 'Off the Quenis Arryvale in Scotland.' 22, 53. maiestitie (cf. VI. 6). 63. hairt cryand] hartis cry.

X. = Folio XVII., with title 'Off the wynning of Calice.' 1. Christiane] cristinit. 9. Judgment] Jugement (with three syllables). 11. is] quha is. 13, 15. all, wall] aw, waw. 18. gef] gaif. 21. the end and victorie] at end the victorie. 24. syne] syn. 48. dominatioun] dominioun.

XI. = Folio XIV. (with first line of title cut away). 4. els] or ellis. 15. deillis] dalis. 24. The first 'weill' is repeated in the MS. 28. wosdome] wisdome. 30. confeid] confyde. 34. an deid] and deid. 37. the puire bayth] at powar. 41, 43. other, ruder] vther, ruther. 66. lawtie] lawlie. 69. falsat] falsheid. 84. 'be' is repeated in the MS.

XII. = Folio XXII. 12. perseueir] persaveris. 13. soppit] sowpit. 17. thocht thay] thocht ȝat ȝai. 43. fraydayis] frydayis. 66. transgressit] transgresst.

XIII. = Folio XXXI. 5. is 3it in] is in ane. 8. taillis] telis (= tales). 9. tailis] talis (= tails). 21. hes no] wantis. 27. bot] bott (= boat). 29. melein] maling. 34. kendit] kend it.

XIV. = Folio XXIII., followed by an account in prose of the event to which the poem refers. In lines 2, 4, 9, 14, 'blyithe' is the name of the barony of Blyth, belonging to Sir Richard. 27. vaillit] waillith. 29. thocht thow] thocht that thow.

XV. = Folio XXIV. 1. sine] syn (= sin). 12. syne] syn.

XVI. Not in the Folio, and not printed by Pinkerton, who merely records '15. On Good Friday, not worth notice.' It is included in the Maitland Club ed. (p. 56) from the Drummond MS. 1. 'raise' is altered to 'raiset' (Dr. MS. 'raisit'), and 'from' deleted. 9. 'dayis' has been deleted before '3eiris.' 26. 'Jesus' for 'Jesu.' 34. scairis (= scarce). 38. 'refraine' for

'refreine.' 67. 'that' has probably been omitted after 'wald.' 113. maiestitie (cf. VI. 6). 120. 'as' is written above 'and.'

XVII. Not in the Folio, and not printed by Pinkerton, who entitles it 'A pious poem on trouble and patience.' Given in the Maitland Club ed. (p. 63) from the Drummond MS. 22. Thay (=thy); 'kinnismen' would improve the metre. 29. For 'now' read 'ȝow.' 36. by (=past).

XVIII. = Folio XCVI., with the rhymes similarly emphasised by punctuation. 20. bot] nocht bot.

XIX. = Folio XCVII. 12. houp] hoip. 14. power] poweir. 21. ȝair sell] ȝame sell. 27. wak] walk. 35. And] Ane. 36. aricht] at rycht. 44. Incres] nwreis (=nourish). 53. Iudgment] Iudgement. 97. For . . . ring] Or . . . regnne. 105. ay In kyndnes] In kyndnes ay.

XX. = Folio CIX. 3. Teynd] teymd (=emptied). 6. sum men not] sum not. 24. chalmer] chamber. 25. for I am auld] now being ald. 40. I am so] and I sa. 47. Playand at the futball] At ȝe futball playing. 50. I am] and am. 55. punische] pwneist.

XXI. = Folio CX. 24. lairdis] laird. 32. sum left] sum is left. 44. sum gud way] sum way. 49. That may] That ȝai may. bayth] *omit.*

XXII. = Folio CXI. 2. ring] regnne. 5. ar] *omit.* 17. pray] I pray. 22. haue] hald. 35. heiche] heicht. 38. Love ȝour Princes] ȝour princiſ luif. 43. Christin, 48. Christiane] chrissin. 46. For] And for. 52. And Ilkane, &c.] Ilkane to vȝer syne be trew.

XXIII. = Folio CXII. 12. disdaine] disdene.

XXIV. = Folio CXIII. 2. left] best. 3. aage] age. 20. 'my' before 'nichtbouris' would improve the metre. 23. Syne] Sin.

XXV. = Folio XCVIII. 12. the Inimitie] ȝe grit Inemete. 20. it sone oppreſ] sone it posses. 21. 'men' has been deleted after 'wyse,' and interlined after 'gud.' 31. for] *omit.* 34, 35. thay will] will ȝai. 36. is quhair that] salbe quhair. 41. gif that ȝe] gif ȝe. 46. roume] rwme. 'to' is deleted before 'ȝow.' 58. thame sell] ȝair sell. 61. gif that ȝe] gif ȝe. 67. Subiect] Subiectit. 75-6 have been transposed; the order in the Folio is better. 77. caus] caus ȝow. 83. teint (=tint, lost)] tane. 88. swir (originally 'sweir')] sure. 98. Bot gif] onles. 113. sprits] spreitis.

XXVI. = Folio XXVI. Verses 2 and 3 are in the reverse order from the Folio. 6. The 'ni' in 'plenisit' is interlined. 9, 12. ȝit of this fals warld] Off ȝis fals warld ȝit. 15. ocht thame] aucht thame. 19. 'ȝay mocht' is altered from '*ȝair* micht.' 27. sair] seir (=various). 29. houpe] hoip.

XXVII. = Folio XXVII. 3. amend] mend. 10. be] for. 13. will nather] nowder will. 13. kna (=knaw). 14. fa (=fall).

XXVIII.=Folio C. 4. lyfe] luife. 39. and ȝour availl] and availe. 44. over] our. 45. held] ȳan held. 46. rebuikit] rebutit. 49. over] ouir. 55. Except] Bot gif. 59. cheir] heir. 63. teyndis] teynd. 64. nichtbouris] nychtbour. nor ȳair frendis] nor freind.

XXIX.=Folio XCIX. 1. It is to] It is now to. 5. growin] gewin (=given). 8. ar Infectit] infeckit ar. 12. on socht] onsocht (=unsought). 16. be of] tak. 32. westouris] waistouris. 35. 'may' altered from 'thay.' 38. bruikit] brouke it. 39. bruikit] brouk it. 60. and wyfe] and ȳair wyff. 68. our] ȝour. 72. Malorum radix] Radix malorum est.

XXX.=Folio CI. 11. now] ȳame. 18. Misreull in] Misreuland. 56. mutine] mantene. 69. 'ȝe' deleted before 'micht.' 76. bene] cum. 84. The Q of 'Quein' is written above 'king' deleted. 85. ȝoung] ȝing. 87. of] or (=before). 94. consistorie and] constrie and in.

XXXI.=Folio CII. 36. for] sic. 55. Then . . him] Thair . . ȳame.

XXXII.=Folio XXVIII. 1. over all] euer. 5. let it in] lat in.

XXXIII.=Folio XXV. 7. and how] how. 15. not lie] not to lie. 20. 'nane' deleted before 'dissaue.' 24. Ir] yre.

XXXIV.=Folio CIV., with the internal rhymes more clearly indicated by punctuation. 4. trouboulous] troublous. 5. Lowthane] Lowthiane. 7. greit] grittest. 17. be now] be. 28. troublous] *omit.*

XXXV. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 138-147), with the heading, 'The Praises of Wemen. Be Maister Alexander Arbuthnot.' In his notes (p. 419) Pinkerton says: "Mr Arbuthnot is no mean poet; but his love of this subject has made him rather prolix. . . . This poem has great *naïveté;* and does not want spirit, tho' the stanza be rather difficult." 19. P. inserts '[maist]' before 'leill.' 20. gein (=given). 37. feill (=fail): cf. l. 183. 64. ȝeis (=ye shall). 102. Read 'woman.' 135. Read 'fall.' 142. Read 'bedein.' 157. bairne=bern (man).

XXXVI. Printed by Pinkerton (p. 148), with the heading, 'On Luve. Be the same.'

XXXVII.=Folio CLXXIX., and there attributed to Maitland. 16. Calling, &c.] and rander to thy maker grace. 21. thow wald] quhilk ȳow. 41. Thow] Haif. 43. and thocht thay that] Thocht ȳai ȳat do. 50. chastisis] chaistnes. 62. over] our. 92. not doe deir] nocht ȳe deir. 100. sait] sett (=seat). 102. that it is] it is its. 109. foirfatheris] first faȳeris. 112. neuer] ȝe na. 115. ȝet hes] ȝit he hes.

XXXVIII. Printed by Pinkerton (p. 214), with the heading, 'Sang on absence.' In his notes (p. 425), Pinkerton says: "This I strongly

suspect to be the *cantilena* by James I. upon his queen, beginning, *Yas sen*, mentioned by Major in his History." After giving reasons for this view, he adds, "As, however, all these arguments may not be regarded as absolute proof, the piece is put late in the series, that not the slightest attempt might be made to mislead the reader, who is left to judge for himself." 1. P. inserts '[the]' before 'eine.' 9. 'sindring'; read 'sindering.' 29. 'brent'; read 'brint.' 33-4. 'bolt' rhymes badly with 'schot.' 38. 'furie' should probably be 'force.' 56. P inserts '[quickly]' before 'walkin.' 58. 'chanche'; read 'chance.' 67. 'ernand'; ? read 'errand.' 73. 'dein'; read ?'kein.' 91. ein and. Plainly so in MS., though Pinkerton prints 'ernand.'

XXXIX. Not printed by Pinkerton, who describes it as "A long and very insipid amatory poem to a lady, without sense, spirit, or poetry. If it inclined the poet's mistress to pity, it must have been pity to his poetry." 1. The rhyme with 'neck' shows that 'suspect,' &c., are to be pronounced without the final -t. 3. 'that to'; read 'That I to.' 19. This line is two syllables short. 21. thocht=have thocht. 34. 'repleit' rhymes imperfectly. 36. wis (=wish). 53. courtes (=courteous). 90. The rhyme requires 'feminein'; cf. XLIX. 2. 98. Read 'wrak' for rhyme.

XL. Not printed in full by Pinkerton, who describes it as "A long piece, intituled (&c.)," and adds, "Some of the stanzas are decent"; he then gives ll. 57-70, and 77-91. 41. 'with' appears to be superfluous. 72. For 'faid' rhyming with 'leid,' 'reid,' compare the spelling 'feidis' in LXV. 86. 92. toūge (=tongue). 99. 'greit' should be 'gryt.' 113. Beistow (=bestow). 115. list (=least).

XLI.=Folio XXIX. 1, 5. waird] weird. 5. ellis] alis. 38. The MS. has 'leif' and '3ot.' 43. poure] pure. 74. Quhoddir] Quhidder. 81. tauntingis] tauntis. 86. mixt] mixit. 115. betie bum] batie bum. 118. I me] thai me. 127. And haittis] I hait. 131. 'ane' is written above 'of.' 138. sait] seit. 173. als burding] burding als. 185. compted is] Is callit.

XLII.=Folio XXX. 40. falset] falsheid. 45. braggis] brag. 74. coist vpon] coist is apone. 79. comptit] Iugeit. 83. the] thai. 94. wanhap] vnhap. 106. holie] haly (=wholly). 122. lyik ane chainging] is lyk ane clengeing. 123. Then] Thame. 153. drawin] drewin (=driven). 168. 'Quhy we sould we' in MS.

XLIII.=Folio LXXXVIII., with the heading, 'Aganis sklandrous toungis in anno 1572,' and attributed at the end to 'Johnne maitland, commendatar of Coldinghame,' &c. 4. defyit=defy it. 18.

stewin] stevin. 36. knawis] knais. 47. be] beir. 50. geked] chekit. 53. 'suspectit' is to be read as 'suspeckit.' 55. Dayis] Dais (=daws). 59. schersit] seirsit. 68. farder] forder. 69. rascall] raschelie. 72. deny] deir by.

XLIV. = Folio CLXXVII., with the heading, 'Ane admonition to my Lord Regent, Maid be I. M. P. of C.' (*i.e.* John Maitland, Prior of Coldingham). 6. hes] hawe. 16. thay] thy. 18. and guyde] to gyde. 27. overthrawin] our thrawin. 28. fairlie] foirlie. 45. sen] syne. 63. fuilȝeit thair] fuilȝeit syne ȳair. 69. covene] conand. 72. subiec] subiect. 80. eistclap] efte(r)clap. 81. thy] ȳe. 87. sone . . . ane] sone (for 'some') . . . and. 88. deloyaltie] disloyaltie. 89. be suire] wilbe sene. 94. peres] pereis (=perish). 96. quhair] ȳat.

XLV. Not printed by Pinkerton, who calls it "A piece of no value." 21. ?read 'the honour'; 'greit' should be 'gryte' for the rhyme. 30. read 'moir.' 40. woundis=wound is.

XLVI. = Folio CLXX., with similar title. 2. Iudmentis] Iugmentis. 5. as choiſ] at choyſ. 11. of linage] of ȝour linnage. 12. wis (=wish). 22. singe (=sign). 28. ennuy] Inwy. 34. fair] seir (=several). 40. wrapit in] wrapte wpe to. 63. sen him] sen he him. 65. receit] recyt. 73. wittie] worthie. 77. prattick] practice. 86. Quhen is] Quhane it is. 88. read 'the victorie'? 89. wittie] worthy. 90. 'muid' altered from 'mynd.' 112. drew] drawe (=drove). 134. Vphauld] Upheld. 148-9. Read 'grit' and 'benefit.' 152. stranger] stroingar. 175. sustenit=sustene it. 176. erectit =erect it. 200. 'go to' altered from 'to the.'

XLVII. = Folio CLXXII., also without title or author's name.

XLVIII. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 237-242), who, in a note on p. 427, describes it as "A celebrated old ballad; and certainly very well written for the time." On the attribution of the poem to Montgomerie, see Dr Cranstoun's edition of that poet's works (S.T.S.), pp. xl.-xliv.; the text itself is given on pp. 273-278, the tune on p. 389, and a number of notes and parallels on pp. 390-394.

XLIX. Not printed by Pinkerton, who describes it as "A song of friendship from one lady to another of sufficient insipidity." 2, 4 do not rhyme properly with 5, 7; but cf. the note on XXXIX. 90. 19. 'reciprocot' in MS. 26. For the rhyme cf. LXV. 4. 44. 'vaill' is perhaps an error for 'wald.' 49. 'eff' is deleted before 'sould.' 67. The metre indicates 'constance.'

L. = Folio CLXXIII. 1. this law] sic law. 9. tratouris] tretit. 16. conqueis] conquest. 20. ane work] aneuche. 21. leif] lost. 26. goddis] god. 29. In haist] In christ. 40. mendit] mend it.

LI. = Folio CLXXIV. 15. 'thay' is interlined. 18. thay] ȝair. 19. doing] to do. 25. 'ar' is interlined. 35. schortin] short. 37. sckayth] skayth. 47. euerie] ilk ane. 50. quhat pleis thame best] quhilk thing thame lest. 56. Caus . . . faist] Cauſ (=causes) . . . fast. 69. get . . . compleit] gat . . . completlie. 70. 'befoir' is interlined. 76. cruell] ciwell (=civil).

LII. = Folio CLXXV. 23. notit] nottit ar. 29. changing] Thai chenge. 45. and will, &c.] bot ȝe be buddis by ȝair kyndnes.

LIII. = Folio XX., with the heading, 'To be put in ony publict hous.' 5. ȝour prince] the quein.

LIV. = Folio CIII. 24. doe nane] do to nane.

LV. = Folio CV. 21. ȝour word apply] apply ȝour worde. 22. out] furthe. 36. or] and. 40. gud] godlie.

LVI. = Folio CVI. LVII. = Folio CVII.

LVIII. = Folio CVIII. 49. weir] feir.

LIX. = Folio CLXXX.; the last piece in the Folio except the two epitaphs on Sir Richard. 16. to tak . . . paine] for to tak sum paine. 18. That] And (=if). 24. brocht] neir broght. 35. nane the] nane sall ȝe. 36. trewlie] frilie. 37. frelie] trewlie. that] so ȝat. 38. proffeitis] proffeit. may be] may. 47. ane hatred] in heitrent. (With either reading the metre is defective). 54. caus] gar. 55. sould] sould ȝare. 58. maiestitie: cf. VI. 6. 70. In this . . . be] That in ȝis land be na tuilȝie.

LX. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 219-222) with the remark (p. 426), "If this poem was made in England, it has been altered to Scotish orthography"; the note then cites Robertson's account of the occurrence, which took place in 1572. The text is also printed from this MS. in *Satirical Poems of the Reformation* (S.T.S.), pp. 240-243, and elucidated by historical and other notes on pp. 162-163 of vol. ii.

LXI. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 223-227), with the title, 'The Answer to the Englisch Ballad.' His note (p. 426) begins with, "This is a sensible piece, their (*sic*) being nothing so unjust as to blame a nation for the faults of individuals." The text is also given in *Satirical Poems*, pp. 244-247, with notes in vol. ii., pp. 164-166. In l. 76 the MS. has 'tratro*uris*.'

LXII. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 228-234), and in the *Satirical Poems*, pp. 248-253, with notes in vol. ii., pp. 166-169. Line 24 lacks two syllables. In l. 25 'of' is interlined; also 'ȝou' in l. 60. In 102 'this' has been deleted before 'sayis.' 126. 'and' should apparently be 'ȝat.' 152. the (=thee).

LXIII. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 168-170), with the title, 'A Poeme on the same Lady.' His note (p. 422) is: "This is given as a curious specimen of tinsel and nonsense. The stars glittering on her gown form a transcendent instance." The piece is also printed

from this MS. in Dr Cranstoun's edition of Montgomerie's poems (pp. 216-217).

LXIV. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 165-167) with the title, 'Sang on the Lady Margaret Montgomrie.' In the note (p. 422) he remarks: "This piece, and the following, are by Captain Montgomery (of that family?), author of a silly poem called The Cherry and Slae." In Dr Cranstoun's edition (pp. 214-215) Pinkerton's inverted order of the pieces and his titles are retained. In l. 7 'perle' has no doubt been omitted after 'pereles.' 42. 'doit' is a misprint for 'dois.'

LXV. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 245-252), with the title, 'Elegie.' In his note (p. 428) he calls it "dull and long; but it seems from p. 249, l. 5 [=l. 101], &c., to have been written upon the death of Sir Richard Maitland; and it has also some poetical beauties." 4. 'haist.' For the rhyme cf. XLIX. 26. 14. The rhyme requires 'schak.' 15. 'expande' apparently for 'expounde.' 25. 'maucles,' so in MS.; probably a misreading of 'mau*les' =mauchtless. 49. 'berent' for 'brent'? 62. 'sum' has perhaps been omitted before 'solace'; Pinkerton inserts 'that' after 'Gif.' 65. 'In wrape tha' apparently for 'Vnwrape thy.' 67. 'Till' apparently for 'tell' (as Pinkerton prints). 82. 'be mone' in MS. 84. After this l. 83 is repeated in the erroneous form, 'quhome fortoun in ȳis maſ of nesarie.' 86. feidis (=fades). 95. 'vaill' does not rhyme; ? read 'sabill.' 105. 'healthe' app. for 'hath.' 107. Pinkerton inserts 'sair' after 'woundis,' and prints 'wyd' for 'voyd.' 114. 'quheill' rhymes imperfectly with 'ill,' &c. 123. 'chaist' should be 'cast.' 125. 'duill' for 'duell' (=dwell). 130. Pinkerton amends the rhyme by printing 'Quhilke nevermore did I serve in my lyve.' 137. bred=brayd (cast). 141. over=our—. 145. 'sad,' perhaps for 'said.' 146. pertene=pertaine. 148. betfull forest] baleful breist, P. 159. 'the' is deleted after 'Then.' 161-176. In these lines the repetition of the terminal words is a notable feature. 171. then] ay, P. 172. elect] erect, P.; probably the same change should be made in 171. 176. 'princes' forms one syllable only.

LXVI. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 171-174), with the title 'Ane Elegie translatit out of the Frenche, written by a ladye upon hir husband's infidelitie.' His note (p. 422) is: "This piece has great merit. Who was the French lady who wrote it? Was it ever published in French? *G. H.* I have not discovered, but he may come to light in time." This hope does not appear to have been fulfilled as yet. 16. foullis=fuillis (fools). 19. 'mair' begins a new sentence. 67. baild=bauld (bold). 70. 'morpheus' for 'orpheus.' 83. After this Pinkerton inserts 'Till the pure foulis in his net he fang.' 84. This line is too

long, and 88 too short. 103. 'forbiddis' should apparently be 'biddis.' 134. 'all' begins a new sentence. 144. The sense of 'my fyne' is not obvious.

LXVII. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 177-178), with the heading 'Sonet be King James VI.' Apparently the piece is not included in any collection of the King's verse.

LXVIII. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 253-259), in eight-lined stanzas, with the title 'In Prayse of Lethingtoun.' The note (p. 428) runs: "This is a very curious poem, independently of its real graces, as descriptive of a *chateau* of that period." 36. The rhyme requires 'monyefold.' 67. 'alryne' is unintelligible. 79. būning (=bumming). 141. blŭid. The MS. has 'bliŭd' altered from 'blind.'

LXIX. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 260-262), with the title 'The Visioun of Chaistetie. To Miss Marie Maitland.' In his note (p. 428) he calls it "A singular piece of great descriptive merit," and adds, "Is the lyon, p. 261 (=l. 30), William Maitland, who killed himself? If so, the harts may be his brethren. . . . *Marie Maitland* is in ll. 17, 18 (=41, 42) thrown into a curious anagram: *mait*, I suppose, is meat." 60. 'tersiphone' for 'terpsichore.'

LXX.=Folio CLXXVIII. The piece ends abruptly, and may be imperfect; this would account for the two leaves which the scribe has left blank at the end of the text. 1. To] To ȝow. 12. to ȝow] to ȝow now. 29. na thing] na change. 65. thay] tak ȳai. 95. scarpenis] scrippionis. 106. Thay were, &c.] Thay wald be cesaris in ȳair actis. 121. schent] schant. 123. weist] waist. 126. fartigard] fartigall.

LXXI. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 263-264), with the title 'Luve-sang on Houp.' Also included in the S.T.S. edition of Montgomerie's poems, pp. 278-279, with notes on p. 394. 32. For 'And' read 'Ane.'

LXXII. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 265-66), with the title 'The faythful luifar. A sang.' 17. Altered from 'Resaue it and Intreit it.' 22. 'Than I dreid I' in MS.

LXXIII. Not printed by Pinkerton, who simply records it as '*Ane prayer* of no merit.'

LXXIV.–LXXXIV. Not printed by Pinkerton, who contents himself with giving the first and last lines of all except Nos. LXXVII. and LXXXI., and adding short comments, viz.: LXXIV. 'very poor'; LXXV. 'very dull'; LXXVII. 'not worth transcription'; LXXXII. 'dull.' 'It is, in fact, to a faithless mistress.' Probably Pinkerton was by this time eager to be done with his task of transcribing from the two manuscripts.

LXXV. 10. 'and' should perhaps be 'of.'

LXXVI. 11. 'hap it' apparently for 'happie.' 27, 33. the (=thee).

LXXVIII. 17. One 'I' should probably be 'It.'

LXXX. 18, 20. The rhyme is imperfect, as also in 29, 31 ; 33, 35 ; and 38, 40.

LXXXI. 29. This line is defective.

LXXXII. 4. This line begins with 'To holie ghost,' deleted.

LXXXIII. 2, 5, 6, &c. the (=thee). 19, 21 and 37, 39. The rhymes are imperfect, even if 'game' stands for 'gam.' 47, 48. The rhyme is imperfect and unusual. 62. The blank is probably intended for the author's name omitted. 72. ne=na.

LXXXV. Printed by Pinkerton (p. 267), with the heading 'To Miss Marie Maitland,' but with the omission of the closing lines ('& than, etc.').

LXXXVI. Not printed by Pinkerton, who describes it as '*A prayer to Diana*, that the writer may *end this worthelie*. By Miss Maitland, no doubt that she might end this MS. well.' The inference is somewhat hazardous.

LXXXVII. Not printed by Pinkerton, but simply mentioned as 'A maxim or two in couplets.'

LXXXVIII. Printed by Pinkerton (p. 270), with characteristic alterations of the text.

LXXXIX. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 268-269), with the title 'Constance the Cure of Absence. A Sang.'

XC. = Folio CLXXXI., with much fuller heading, and at the end 'Quod Thomas hudsone.'

XCI. = Folio CLXXXII., with heading 'Ane Vther Epitaph of the said Sir Richard,' and at the end 'Quod Robert hudson.'

XCII. Printed by Pinkerton (p. 352), but without the last two lines. 12. 'marthle' is miswritten for 'marche,' which P. prints.

XCIII. Printed by Pinkerton (p. 352), with the heading altered to 'A luid of the said Sir Richard,' &c., and with the second piece 'omitted as of no value.' The word 'luid' appears to be otherwise unrecorded. 11. 'consemud' is miswritten for 'conseumd,' as in XCIV. 4. 4.

XCIV. Printed by Pinkerton (pp. 354-357). 1. 7. 'abbund' for 'abound.' 13. The parenthesis marks are unnecessary and obscure the syntax. 2. 9. From this line P. infers that these Visions were composed in March 1586. 3. 3. 'A uterpe' for 'Euterpe.' 3. 7. 'Polhymina'; so in MS. 4. P. remarks: 'The fourt vision is rather obscure. The author appears to have been in prison, but released by James VI., at Secretary John Maitland's request. Perhaps the motto may discover the author.' 1. 'exyde' for 'exyle.'

XCV. Not printed by Pinkerton, who describes it as 'A poem in octave stanzas, on the death of Sir Richard Maitland and his lady, not worth transcription.' 5. After 'may' some such word as 'withdraw' is omitted. 17. 'defended' for 'descended.' 56. Only the tops of the letters in this line remain.

GLOSSARY.

Abeceiß, *n. pl.* abbacies, li. 61
Aggrage, *v.* increase, xxxviii. 76
Air, *adv.* early, lix. 13
Airtis, *n. pl.* directions, xi. 27
Aithe, *n.* oath, lxxxiii. 26
All gait, *adv.* in every way, lix. 15
Alluterlie, *adv.* completely, xvi. 55
Allya, *v.* make alliance, lvii. 17
Alryne, *n.* (?), lxviii. 67
Alwyse, *adv.* always, lxi. 75
Aneuch, *n.* enough, xiv. 24
Anew, *a.* enough, ix. 21
Aperse, *n.* paragon, xlviii. 21
Apperantlie, *adv.* apparently, xvi. 89
Areir, *adv.* behind, xviii. 25
Areird, *adv.* backward, xlii. 85
Argone, *v.* argue, xi. 23
Ark, *n.* chest, iii. 44
Assyile (=athle), *v.* polish, adapt, xli. 44
Asteres, *pl.* stars, lxiii. 25
Asuir, *a.* azure, lxiii. 3
Attein, *v.* attain, xl. 108; lxxi. 39
Attent, *pp.* assailed, lxv. 68
Aucht, *v.* ought to, lxv. 85

Babeis, *n. pl.* money, lxx. 26
Baild, *a.* bold, lxvi. 67
Baill, *n.* sorrow, xlv. 40
Baine-fyris, *n. pl.* bonfire, vi. 20
Bairne (=bern), *n.* man, xxxv. 157
Baneist, *pp.* banished, lx. 45, 54
Bangeister, *n.* bully, braggart, li. 49
Baß, *a.* base, xlii. 79
Bauld, *a.* bold, lxxiii. 47
Baxteris, *n. pl.* bakers, lxx. 17
Be-dein, *adv.* straightway, xxxv. 142
Begoude, *pt.* began, lxxxiii. 55; begouthe, lxix. 66
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